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VOLUME 7

DARK HORSE MANGA

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MOB PSYCHO 100
VOLUME 7

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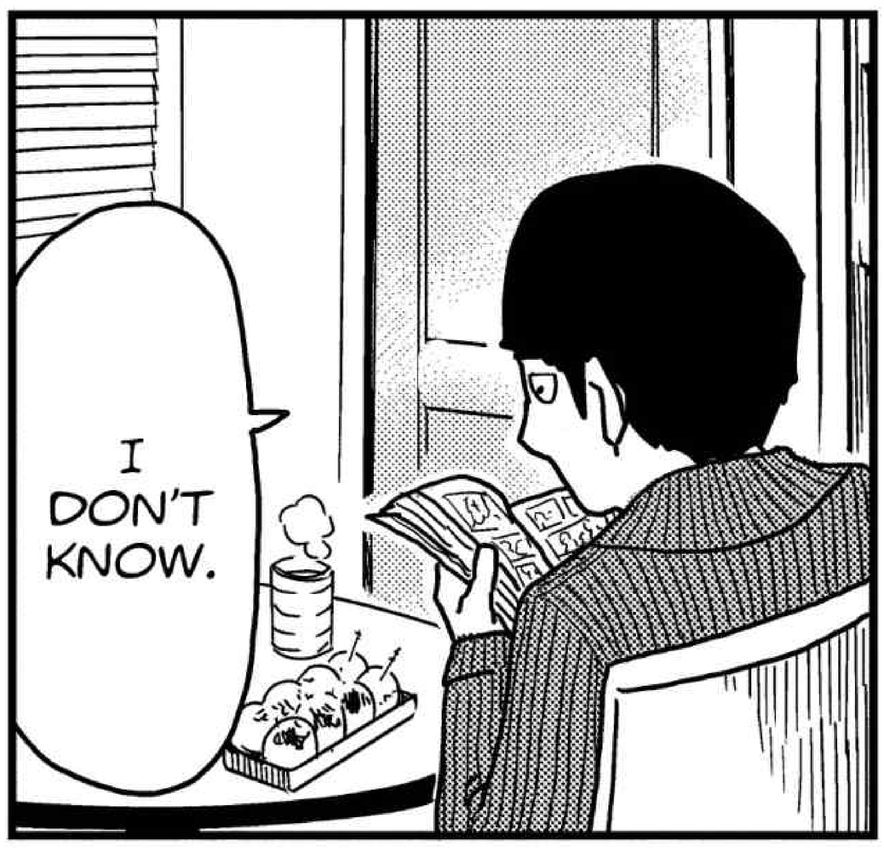
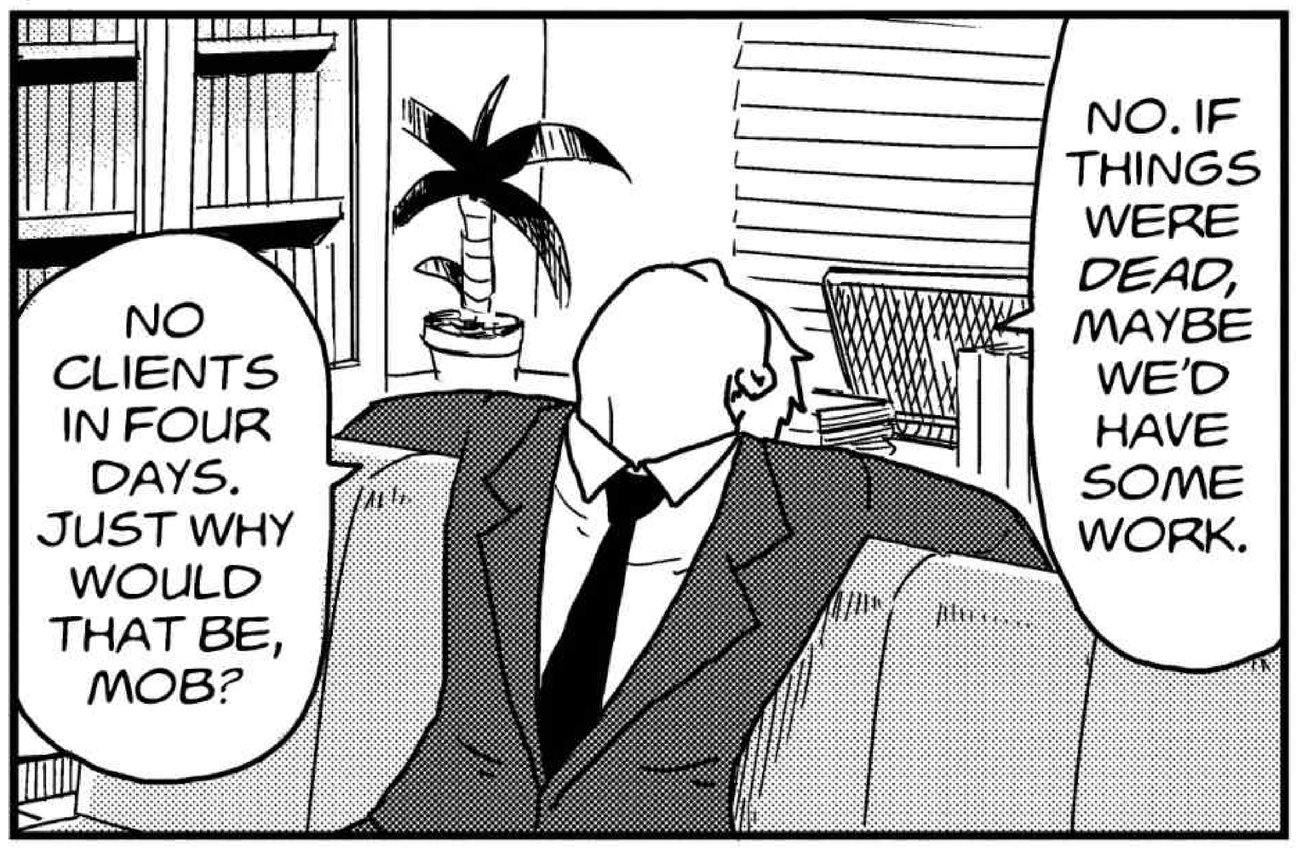
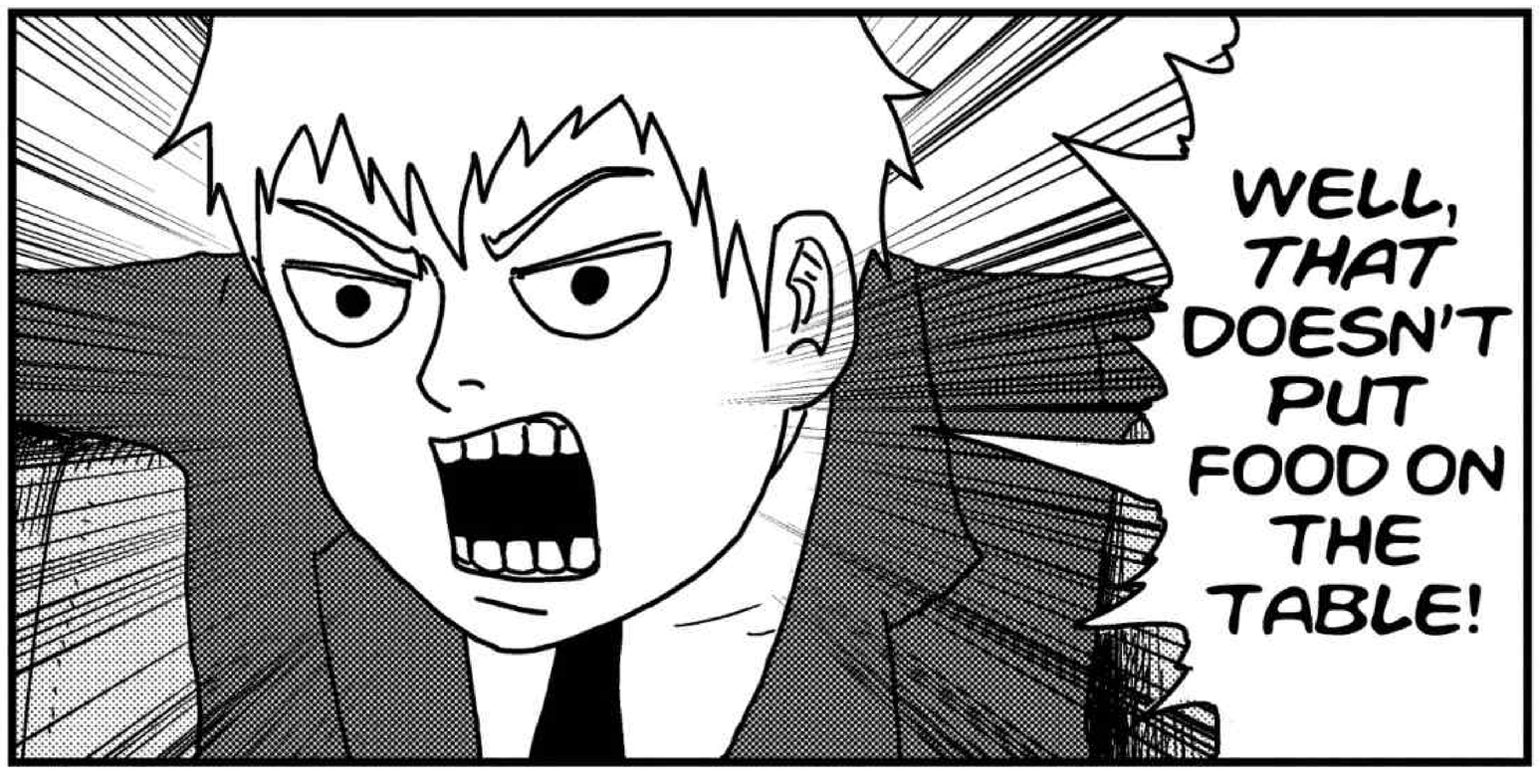
CHAPTER 53: URBAN LEGENDS







UM, MAINLY AMONG KIDS IN ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH.

YES, AFTER SOME DIGGING THROUGH MYSTICAL ARCHIVES (A QUICK WEB SEARCH), I FOUND OUT THEY'RE STILL A THING.

KTUNK

KTUNK

URBAN LEGENDS ...?

KTUNK

OF COURSE YOU HAVE, MOB. YES, SUCH URBAN LEGENDS WERE A FAD WHEN I WAS A KID TOO...

YOU MUST HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE "SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN" AND THE "MAN-FACED DOG" WITH YOUR FRIENDS TOO, RIGHT?

UH-UH.

OH. SORT OF LIKE WHEN WE TRIED TO CATCH A TSUCHINOKO...?

...WE'RE GOING TO FOLLOW UP ON THESE REPORTS THAT WERE SEALED AWAY AS TOP SECRET BY THE GOVERNMENT (FOUND IN 15 SECONDS ON GOOGLE)...

...GO TO THE LOCATIONS WHERE THEY WERE SIGHTED... AND DRUM UP SOME BUSINESS!

NO, OF COURSE NOT.

KTUNK

...?

SO... WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

NO SUCH THING ACTU-ALLY EXISTS.

TSUCHI-NOKO ARE *REAL*, AFTER ALL. THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN IS JUST A MADE-UP STORY.

KTUNK

SO. IF WE WALK AROUND AND MAKE OUR EXPERTISE KNOWN, I EXPECT COMMIS-SIONS FOR SPIRITUAL ADVICE AND EXORCISMS WILL COME ROLLING IN.

A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE FEARFUL AND SUPER-STITIOUS.

IT'S VERY SIMPLE, MOB. IF THERE ARE A LOT OF URBAN LEGENDS IN AN AREA, THAT MEANS THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO *BELIEVE* IN URBAN LEGENDS.

THEY'RE UNHAPPY, AND THAT'S WHY *YOU* SMILE! SMILING, MOB! IT'S THE KEY TO DOOR-TO-DOOR SALES SUCCESS!

YOU SEEM VERY ENERGIZED ABOUT TRAWLING FOR UNHAPPI-NESS.

DID YOU MAKE THAT YOURSELF?

YES.

TRY US!

Spirits & such POP-UP SHOP

flap

krikkk

Spi

WELL, I THINK WE'RE BLOCKING FOOT TRAFFIC.

HUH. I WAS HOPING TO SEE *FEAR* IN THEIR EYES, BUT IT'S MORE LIKE ANNOY-ANCE.

THIS GUY'S AN "OF THE 21st CENT-URY" TOO...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THIS JURIS-DICTION BELONGS TO ME-- BANSHO-MARU SHINRA, PSYCHIC MEDIUM OF THE 21st CENTURY!

twitch

...!

...HEY, *YOU!* WHO GAVE YOU PERMIS-SION TO DO BUSINESS HERE...?!

hmmm?

RECENTLY (MEANING ALWAYS), I'VE BEEN KIND OF SCRAPING BY.

...BUT IF YOU'RE ALSO A SPIRITUAL SCAMMER-- I MEAN, CONSULTANT, COULD YOU TELL ME WHERE TO GET WORK AROUND HERE?

NAH, I'M FREELANCE. ARATAKA REIGEN, PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

EH? YOU DON'T KNOW? I CAN SEE YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER OF THE SUN PSYCHIC UNION!

YOU'RE THE ONE THAT CAN TAKE A HIKE...!

NO! I TOLD YOU, THIS IS MY TERRITORY...!

I SEE. WELL, IN THAT CASE, PLEASE GO AWAY.

TRY US!

HMPH! AS IF I'M GONNA HELP OUT A BUSINESS RIVAL!

Y-YOU DO? W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT ...?

YOU CAN'T TELL ME THE LAW! I COMMAND A HIGHER POWER ...!

SO YOU DON'T HAVE ANY AUTHORITY.

I REFUSE. WHAT AUTHORITY DO YOU HAVE?

UM...

...WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO BE A SPIRIT MEDIUM?

ER... YOU'RE BLOCKING FOOT TRAFFIC.

I ACTU-ALLY HAVE A MATTER I NEED HELP WITH...

CAN YOU GIVE ME A CON-SULTA-TION ...?

YES...

YES!!

YES!

YES, SIR.

ONE CA CA'S EXTRA LARGE "SHARIN' SIZE" FRIES, AND FOUR SODA CUPS. BOTTOM-LESS.

Ca Ca's

LUNCH

EVEN NOW, LOOK ...

BE-SIDE ME...

... SPIRITS AND... UN-CANNY THINGS ...SEEM TO BE DRAWN TO-WARDS ME.

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A TEN-DENCY TO ATTRACT STRANGE-NESS...

SO WHAT'S TROU-BLING YOU...?

THERE'S NOTHING THERE.

WHAT?

IT EMBAR-RASSES MY ASSIS-TANT AND I THAT OUR PRO-FESSION IS ASSOCI-ATED WITH FRAUDS LIKE YOU...

...EH, MOB ?

WHAT DID YOU SAY TO ME ...?!

THERE IS... I CAN SEE IT.

YOU DON'T SEE CRAP.

chew

THANK GOOD-NESS... YOU'RE THE REAL DEAL...

...WHEN I ASKED ABOUT IT ONLINE BEFORE, I ONLY GOT NON-SENSE AN-SWERS...

...OF COURSE, I COULD SEE IT! SHALL WE GET DOWN TO BUSI-NESS...?

IT'S THE SPIRIT OF A MIDDLE-AGED MAN.

L□□stare..

キラーン

Flashing!

MAS-TER, DON'T YOU AL-READY SPEND ALL YOUR TIME ON THE OFFICE COM-PUTER?

YES, BUT I JUST USE IT TO SURF THE WEB.

ATTRACT-ING CUSTOM-ERS ONLINE. I DON'T HAVE A HOME PAGE.

MAYBE START A BLOG, TOO.

WHAT ARE YOU WRIT-ING?

YES, SALT IS WELL KNOWN AS A CHARM AGAINST EVIL.

THIS IS TRUE...

...I DID SOME INVESTIGATING OF MY OWN AND PLACED A MOUND OF SALT IN MY ROOM...THAT HELD IT BACK A BIT.

...EVEN WHEN I'M SLEEP-ING... I GET THIS FEELING THAT'S WORSE THAN EVER BEFORE ...

THERE'S BEEN A PARTIC-ULAR EVIL PRES-ENCE HANG-ING OVER THIS NEIGH-BOR-HOOD LATELY ...

...THE UN-PLEAS-ANT FEEL-ING HAS GROWN ...

AS I SAID ...

HUH?

HEY, MOB, DON'T EAT TOO MANY.

...THAT'S WHY I ORDERED EXTRA LARGE. FRENCH FRIES PROTECT THE SOUL, BUT THEY ELEVATE YOUR BLOOD PRES-SURE.

YOU *KNOW* ABOUT THEM ...?

DO YOU MEAN... URBAN LEGENDS ?

RUMORS ?

AND I THINK IT'S LINKED TO THE IN-CREASE IN RUMORS AROUND HERE LATELY.

...WHEN I HEAR THESE RUMORS, THE SPIRITS DRAW NEAR.

RUMORS THAT THESE BEINGS HAVE BEEN SIGHTED ARE ALL AROUND NOW...

...AND THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN.

THE MAN-FACED DOG, THE SPRINTING CRONE, THE RED RAIN-COAT...

SO I BEG YOU...

I THINK IF THE RUMORS GO AWAY, SO WILL THE SPIRITS...

DRIVE THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN AND ALL THE REST OUT OF THIS TOWN! *PLEASE* !!

...RID US OF THESE URBAN LEG-ENDS!

...SUCH A TASK... WOULD BE LIKE TRYING TO HOLD ONTO A CLOUD...

BUT SUCH A TASK...

NOW, I HAPPEN TO HAVE A MEAL DEAL HERE WITH CA CA'S. IF YOU BUY US CHEESE BURG-ERS PLUS AN EXOR-CISM, YOU'LL SAVE...

MEAL DEAL ?!?

LUNCH

LEAVE IT TO US!

I, ARATAKA REIGEN, WILL ACCEPT THE JOB!

I PROMISE YOU... WE WILL INVESTI-GATE THE CAUSES... AND WE WILL *ELIMI-NATE* THEM!

ACTUALLY, I'LL BE GETTING YOU TO HELP ME ON THIS JOB TOO.

"THAT MUCH"? MY STARTING COST IS **200,000** YEN! AND IF I HAD TAKEN THIS JOB, I WOULD HAVE DEMANDED AT LEAST...

IT'S WORTH THAT MUCH AT LEAST. THIS IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT WORK.

...AND YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT FOR JUST *20,000 YEN...?*

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ACCEPTED...

COME ON, LET'S GO.

...WHAT WAS YOUR NAME? MARUO MORITA, WASN'T IT?

WHAT DID HE JUST SAY...?

HUH ...?

HOW DARE YOU ...?!

WE BOTH HEARD HER STORY. IT WOULD BE UNETHICAL FOR YOU TO CUT OUT NOW. COME ON, I'LL GIVE YOU HALF.

BAN-SHO-MARU SHINRA! AND I'M NOT HELPING YOU!!

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL SPLIT UP HERE AND MAKE INQUIRIES AMONG THE LOCALS.

THEY CAN GIVE US BOTH THE DETAILS ON THESE SIGHT-INGS.

FIND OUT ANYTHING, CALL THE OTHER. ALWAYS REMEM-BER THE **THREE RULES--**

--**CON-**TACT, **CON-**FER, **CON-**SULT. OR, **ALWAYS CON.**

HMPH... I GUESS I CAN LOOK AT THIS AS A CHARITY CASE AND HELP YOU.

BUT YOU BETTER KEEP UP YOUR END OF IT. I'M NOT GOING ON A FOOL'S ERRAND.

SURE!

AS IF YOU WERE BUSY.

MOB.

IS DIMPLE HERE?

DIMPLE.

YOU'VE BEEN RE-QUEST-ED.

ポウ

pwofff

IN WHAT WAY ARE WE COL-LEAGUES?

YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE...?

DON'T BE SO MEAN! WHY, WE'RE COL-LEAGUES, AREN'T WE...?

YEAH?

WHAT IS IT? I'D CRANKED UP MY INVISIBILITY MODE BECAUSE I'M SICK OF TALKING TO YOU.

RIGHT, RIGHT. OKAY, HERE'S THE TASK--I WANT YOU TO FOLLOW THAT LARDASS IN STEALTH MODE.

fwip

YOU'RE A *SPIRIT EX-PLOITER!* WHY, IF YOU WEREN'T SHIGEO'S MENTOR, I'D--

IF HE STUMBLES ONTO ONE OF THESE URBAN LEGENDS FOR REAL, I'D HATE TO THINK I GOT HIM IN OVER HIS HEAD FOR A MEASLY 10,000 YEN. HE USUALLY GETS 200,000.

NO...I'M WOR-RIED THAT HE MAY NOT BE PLAYING DUMB. HE MAY ACTUAL-LY *BE* DUMB.

YUP.

THAT SHIN-RA DUDE?

IF HE WANDERS OFF, JUST FORGET HIM!

thmp

thmp

WHY *ME?!*

I WON-DER.

HM?

JUST IN CASE, I MEAN. I DON'T THINK HE WILL...

IF HE RUNS INTO TROUBLE AND YOU'RE THERE, YOU CAN BUY US A BIT OF TIME TO RESCUE HIM, RIGHT ...?

THERE IS SOMETHING ODD ABOUT THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD, JUST LIKE THAT WOMAN SAID...

...THERE MAY ACTUALLY BE SOMETHING GOING ON AROUND HERE.

...IN TIME IT GIVES IT **REALITY.** IT GIVES IT ***POWER.***

WHEN PEOPLE COLLEC-TIVELY FOCUS THEIR THOUGHTS ON SOME-THING, EVEN IF IT STARTS OUT AS FANTASY...

IF MONSTERS FROM URBAN LEGENDS ACTUALLY DO ROAM AROUND HERE... THEY'LL ***ACQUIRE*** THAT STRENGTH.

SHE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW. SUPER-NATURAL BEINGS GAIN *STRENGTH* THE MORE PEOPLE SPREAD TALES ABOUT THEM.

...I CAN SENSE THAT AS WELL.

NOT TODAY, DIMPLE.

I WANNA BE A GOD, TOO!!

WHY DO YOU *THINK* I STARTED A RELIGION ...?!

I'LL HAVE SOME-THING TO ASK OF *YOU* SOON TOO... SHIGEO.

FINE...A LITTLE GIVE AND TAKE, THEN?

PLEASE, DIMPLE.

WE DON'T WANT ANY-THING TO GO WRONG.

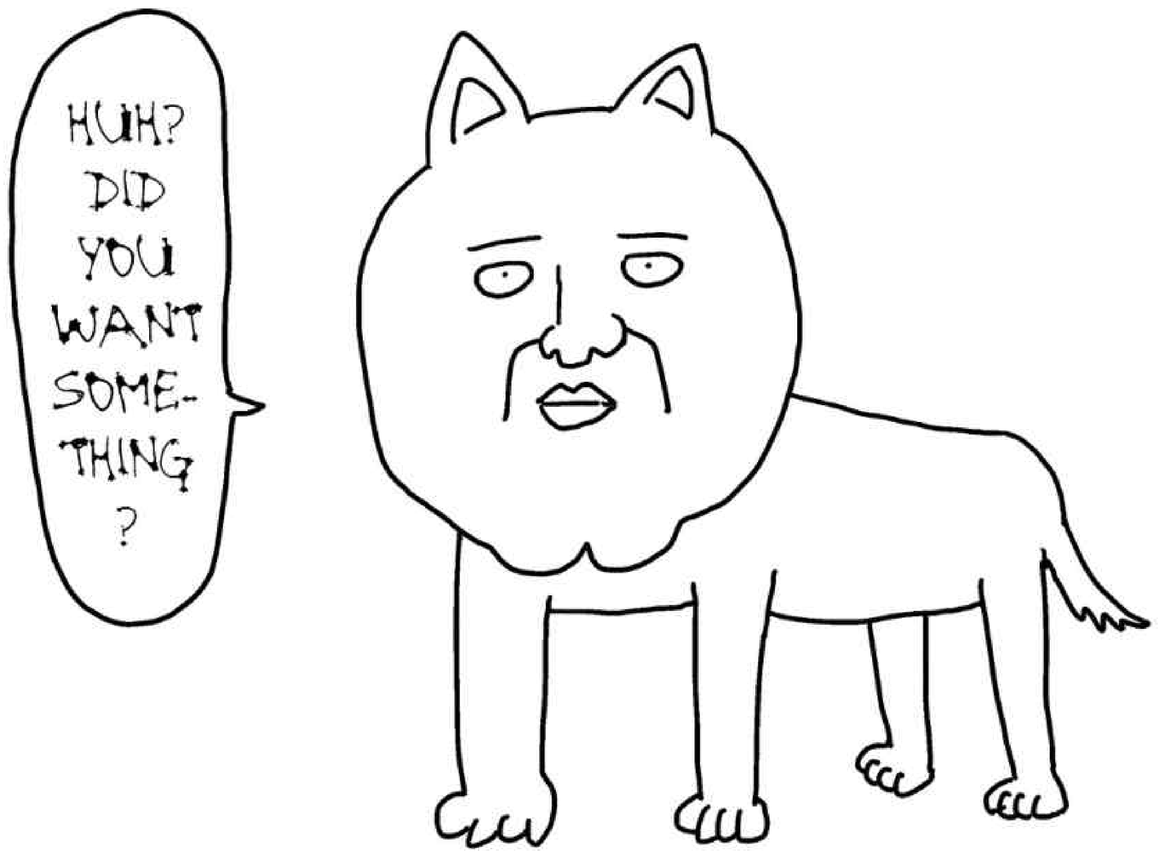
コココ

ドドド

URBAN LEGEND:

THE MAN-FACED DOG

- **A dog with the face of a middle-aged man.**
- **A dog with the voice of a middle-aged man.**
- **A dog with the personality of a middle-aged man.**
- **Occultists are currently debating whether it should be renamed "The Middle-Aged Man-Faced Dog."**



CHAPTER 54: RUMORS AND CONFRONTATIONS

HAVE YOU SEEN ANYTHING SUSPI-CIOUS AROUND HERE LATELY...?

WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH MY SON?!

UM...

WHY ARE YOU TALK-ING TO MY SON?!

...NO, I WAS JUST ASKING AROUND ABOUT URBAN LEGENDS AND...

CALL THE COPS!!

NO, YOU SEE, IT'S JUST --

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HEY, MOM, LOOK AT THIS WEIRDO.

EH?!

LIKE WHAT?

UH-HUH.

I SAW THIS DUDE WEARING WEIRD CLOTHES.

grrrrr

URK!

fwip

LIKE YOU.

WE CAN'T GO AROUND RANDOMLY ASKING KIDS QUESTIONS. SOMEONE WOULD CALL THE COPS.

WHY ARE WE IN AN INTERNET CAFÉ?

OPEN 24 HRS

WE MAY FIND SOME USEFUL INFORMATION.

WOW... IT'S NOTHING BUT BULLYING.

AN UNDERGROUND SITE SET UP BY LOCAL JUNIOR HIGH KIDS.

WHAT IS THIS? A MESSAGE BOARD...

TAKEN IN DISTRICT 4, FUKAZUME.

HM...

THEY'VE UPLOADED AN IMAGE OF THE DOG...

BUT AMID THE ABUSE ...

AH! SEE!

力 力 チ K K K K I I I I

...SO WE'LL JUST HAVE TO CHECK IT OUT!

...BUT IT'S TOO BLURRY TO REALLY TELL.

SIGHTINGS OF A **MAN-FACED DOG** AND A **SPRINTING CRONE!**

ACTUAL HITS...

...WHOA, THERE ARE A TON OF POSTINGS HERE.

WHAT?

DID YOU SAY, "JUST BE-FORE" ...?!

HE TRIED TO TALK TO US AND WE RAN AWAY.

THERE WAS A GUY JUST BEFORE YOU WEARING RED CLOTHES.

Jari

UM, S-SORRY! I JUST GOT EXCITED ...

THIS GUY'S REALLY WORKED UP, HUH ...

HEY! THAT HURTS!! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF OF ME!

TELL ME MORE! WHICH WAY DID HE GO...?!

WHAT IF THAT GUY IN RED-- LOOK, I'LL WALK YOU HOME ...!

HEY! HANG ON A MINUTE !! YOU GIRLS AREN'T SAFE ALONE !

GOODBYE!

?!

...UM, I DON'T MEAN EXCITED, EXACTLY... I'M JUST REALLY CON-CERNED...

...WHY ARE YOU LOOK-ING AT ME LIKE THAT ...?

THIS DUDE IS A PER-VERT!

STAY AWAY FROM US!

UM...YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO PULL YOUR SAFETY ALARMS, YOU KNOW...

breeeee!

reeeee!

reeeee!

reeeee!

reeeee!

reeeee!

tug!

I...

HOLD ON, NOW...

...HEY! I DIDN'T DO ANY--

MEDIUM, HUH? I'D SAY YOU'RE *WELL DONE.*

I'M A SPIRIT MEDIUM OF LEGITI-MATE SOCIAL STANDING!

...IT'S ALL A MISUNDER-STANDING! I'M NOT A PERVERT!

OW!

HEY, YOU KIDS! QUIT THROW-ING THOSE...

OW!

konk.

SHIT...! IF I CHASE AFTER THE KIDS NOW, I'LL PROBABLY END UP GETTING RE-PORTED AGAIN...

WHAT NOW ...?

LET'S GO.

...AND YOU! COME BACK! I STILL NEED TO KNOW...

IT'S BE-CAUSE THIS WEIRDO INTER-FERED!

Whoosh

AAH! I WAS AFTER THOSE GIRLS!

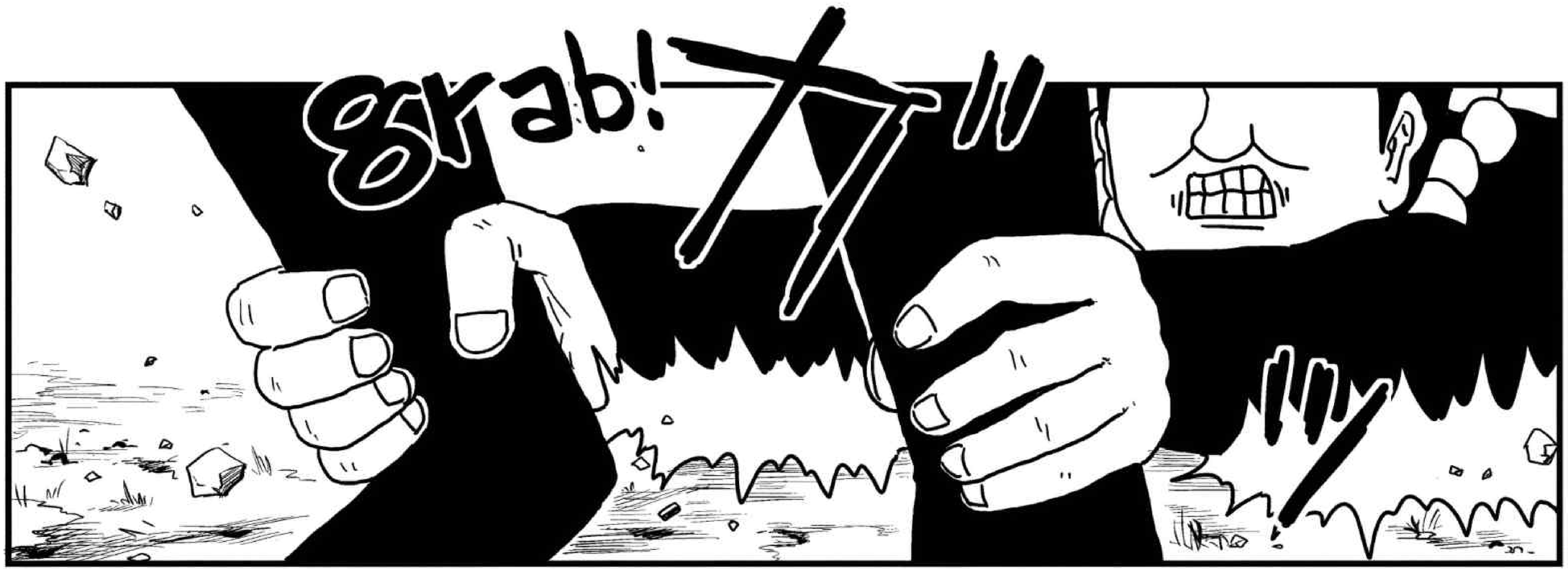
EH?

A red raincoat ...?

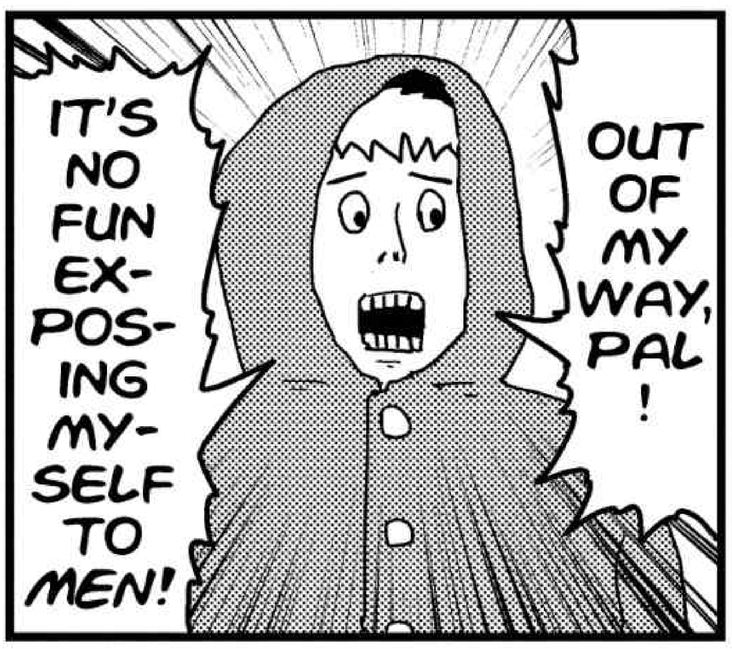
タッタッタッ... tmp tmp tmp

HOLD ON, YOU ...!

HEY! WAIT!


grab!

A FLASH-ER TARGET-ING KIDS...?
YOU LOW-LIFE ...!


IT'S NO FUN EX-POS-ING MY-SELF TO MEN!
OUT OF MY WAY, PAL!

fwump!

FILM IT! FILM IT!
AWE-SOME! IT'S WEIRDO VERSUS WEIRDO !!
WHO DO YOU THINK WILL WIN...?!

slam!?

...!

fwoosh

clench

ギリッ

HMPH...I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I WAS THE VICE CAPTAIN OF THE SUMO TEAM IN GRADE SCHOOL!

I GIVE UP! I GIVE UP AL-READY!! LET GO OF ME!

FWAMMM!

AGH!

I WAS VICE CAPTAIN OF THE TRACK TEAM...!

ZOOM!

HEY, YOU KNOW WHAT...?

THEN START ANSWER-ING MY QUES-TIONS. ARE YOU THE RU-MORED...

LET ME REST A SEC.

HAHH... THOUGHT Y-YOU WERE GONNA MAKE ME HAVE A HEART ATTACK...

...Y-YOU GOT ME.

SURE CAN RUN, HUH?

OOH, THAT WEIRDO WAS TRICKY!

TERROR

SO, THE DOG ...

...HAS A FACE DRAWN WITH MAGIC MARKER.

SO IT WAS A FALSE RUMOR.

NO.

THIS IS THE MAN-FACED DOG.

AND STORIES HAVE SOME LIES...AND SOME TRUTHS.

FOR YOUNG KIDS, THIS IS ENOUGH TO MAKE THE RUMOR REAL.

AS I'VE SAID MANY TIMES, URBAN LEGENDS ARE JUST STORIES, WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO IT.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WELL, THAT COSTS *MONEY*, MISTER!

TERROR

WHAT'S THIS? SOME-ONE'S COME TO SEE THE MAN-FACED DOG...!

YOU DRAW ON THIS POOR DOG'S FACE AGAIN AND I WILL CLOBBER THE HELL OUT OF YOU!!!

GOD-DAMN LITTLE PUNKS !!!

HEY, HIS EYES ARE SO BAD, HE STILL HASN'T NOTICED THE SCRIBBLES !

THE OLD MAN WHO LIVES HERE.

WHOSE DOG IS THIS?

HUH? WHY'D YOU THINK THAT?

A-ARE YOU HIS GRAND-SON?

YEAH! THINK I CARE IF THEY KNOW WHO I AM? WELL, I DON'T! OR MY NAME ISN'T TARO SUZUKI!

BUT IT ISN'T.

THINK I'M SCARED TO BE KNOWN FOR MY VIGILANTE JUSTICE? THE WORLD NEEDS ADULTS WHO'LL STAND UP TO BRATS LIKE YOU!

GO RIGHT AHEAD!

W-WE'RE GONNA TELL THE PTA!

Y-YOU CLOB-BERED US ANY-WAY.

MASTER, WHAT'S THAT?

rustle ゴソ

rustle ガサ

NOW, THEN...

GUESS YOU MUST LOVE DOGS TOO!

WHAT A KIND YOUNG MAN. HE MUST BE DIRTY...I CAN'T SEE TOO GOOD THESE DAYS.

YOU SAY YOU'RE GONNA WASH TER-ROR?

...EH, MOB?

HEY, TER-ROR, HERE'S A BONE IF YOU KEEP STILL FOR THE WASH!

YOU CAN HAVE A VIO-LENT NAME AND STILL BE NICE...

SO YOU KNEW IT WAS A PRANK?

DOG SHAMPOO. FROM WHEN WE STOPPED AT THE PET STORE BEFORE.

OBVI-OUSLY. WERE YOU ACTUALLY LOOKING FOR A DOG WITH A HUMAN FACE?

DOG SHAMPOO GETS THE SPOTS OUT OF SPOT!

SO WE'LL TAKE SOME BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES ...

HAHH

HAHH

HAHH

...OF "THE MAN-FACED DOG."

BUT WHY *ARE* WE GOING TO WASH HIM...?

DON'T YOU SEE? THIS LITTLE FELLA IS ONE OF THE "RUMORS" STRESSING OUT OUR CLIENT!

MOB, CAN YOU GET SOME HOT WATER FROM HIS OWNER? GO FETCH IT!

THAT'S A GOOD BOY!

WHICH ONE IS HE TALKING TO...?

AFTER THIS WE'LL TRACK DOWN "THE SPRINTING CRONE"...I TOOK A NOTE OF WHERE IT WAS SIGHTED.

SAY...I WONDER HOW *HE'S* DOING. NO WORD FROM HIM YET.

OF COUSE, WE HAVEN'T CALLED HIM EITHER...

WHAT'S WRONG? OUT OF WIND?

TOO BAD.

I'D WORRY ABOUT HIS **HEART,** TOO.

SO YOU *gasp!* D-DON'T HAVE TO WORRY *wheeze!* ABOUT MY WIND!

...I WAS *hfff* ON THE ***PING-PONG TEAM*** T-TOO ...!

I WASN'T *hfff* JUST ON THE SUMO T-TEAM ...

IT'S CALLED A **CITIZEN'S ARREST!** IF A CRIME IS WITNESSED, EVEN ORDINARY P-PEOPLE CAN APPREHEND THE PERP!

T-TO ***TAKE YOU IN...!***

WHAT DO WANT FROM ME, ANY-WAY ...?

LOOK, PAL, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A CORO-NARY, CHAS-ING AFTER ME.

YOU'LL FACE THE SCALES OF JUS-TICE, YOU SICKO!

Wshhh

YOU'RE UNDER AR-REST FOR INDE-CENT EXPO-SURE!

AND WHILE I CAN'T *hfff* EXORCISE A FLASHER ...I CAN STILL HAUL YOU INTO A POLICE STATION.

I'VE SOLVED THE URBAN LEGEND OF "THE RED RAIN-COAT"!

BUT, YOU SEE...

THINK YOU RAN ME DOWN TO THESE WOODS, HUH?

I WANTED YOU HERE...

...'CAUSE IN THE WOODS, THERE'S NO ONE AROUND.

urrgkk ...!

A LEGEND *THEY* MADE UP! HEY, IT'S JUST AN OLD RAINCOAT I HAD THAT LOOKS KINDA RED...BUT *THEY* TURNED A FLASHER INTO THEIR FAMOUS *NEIGHBOR-HOOD MYSTERY!*

THANKS TO THEM... I'M NOW SOME-ONE *IMPOR-TANT!*

ONE DAY I FOUND OUT THEY WERE MAKING FAN FICTION ABOUT THIS RAINCOAT! THEY FORGET WHEN IT'S OPEN-- AND I'M A CREEP...

...THEY *REMEM-BER* WHEN IT'S CLOSED-- AND I'M AN *URBAN LEGEND!*

thudd

SURE, AT FIRST IT WAS FUN JUST TO FLASH ...

...BUT THEN IT BECAME SOME-THING MUCH *MORE* THAN FUN.

ファサッ rustle

SO. YOU WERE GOING TO TAKE ME TO THE COPS?

ごり grind

HM?

...IT'S A MUST-HAVE FOR A WEAKLING LIKE ME.

パzzt bzztチ パチ パチチチ dzztzzt...

SELF-PROTEC-TION GEAR...

GYAAAA-AGGHH!!!

zzapp バチ zzapp バチ zzapp バチ zzapp バチ zzapp バチ

WERE YOU? WERE YOU? WERE YOU?! WERE YOU ?!?

whoooosh

FINALLY PASSED OUT, HUH?

...

!

TIME TO MOVE ON...

STILL... HE SAW MY FACE. GUESS I CAN ALWAYS BECOME A LEGEND IN *ANOTHER* NEIGH-BORHOOD.

...

WHOOOOOOOOO

EH...?

AM I PRETTY ...?

WHO ARE YOU...? DID YOU SEE ALL THAT?

...COME CLOSER.

UH, I CAN'T *TELL* UNLESS YOU, UH...

TELL ME. AM I PRETTY ...?

SHIT... ANO-THER WIT-NESS ...?!

OH, GREAT. ALL I NEED... SOME CRAZY PER-SON.

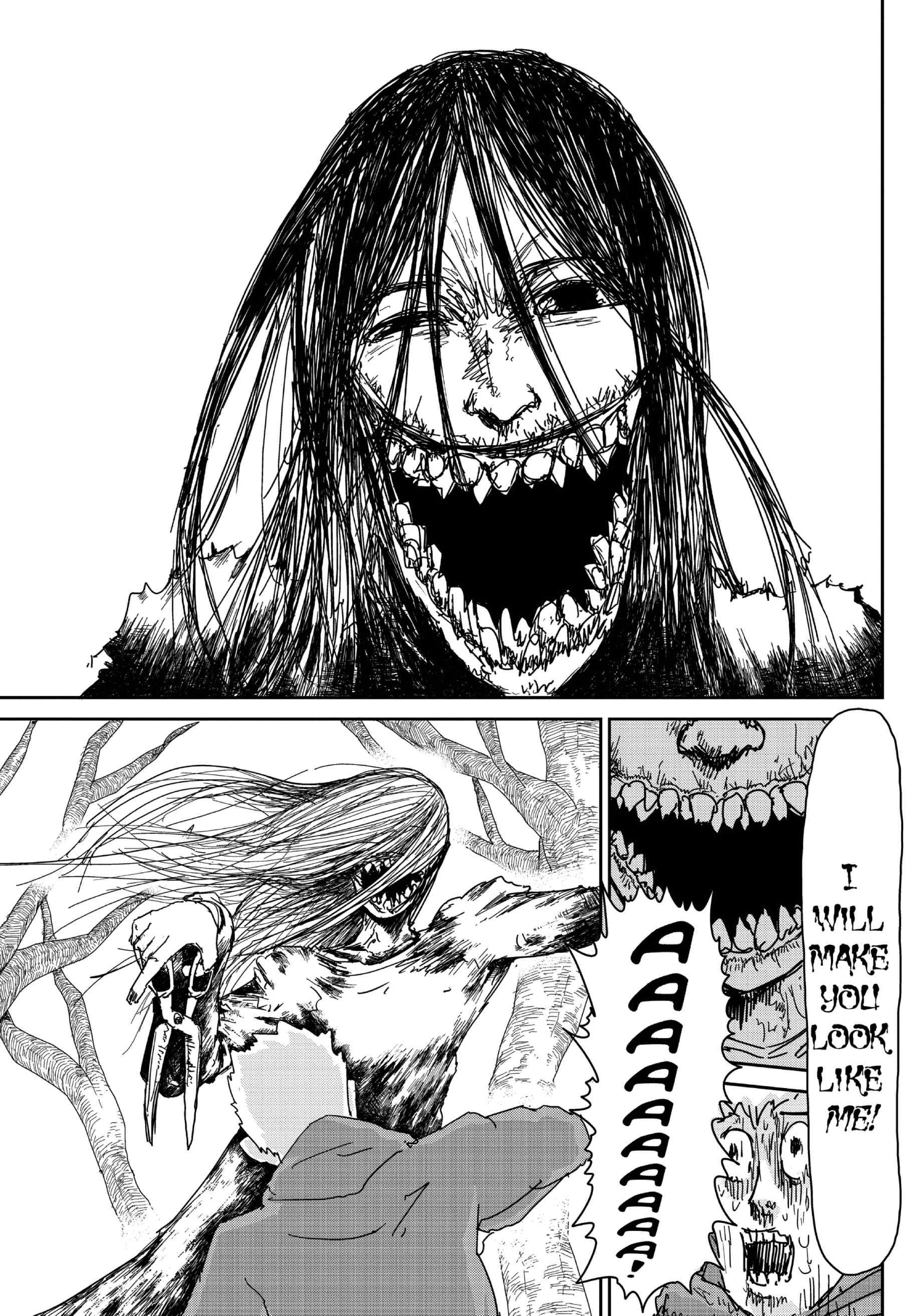
AM I PRETTY ...?

...YEAH, YOU'RE REAL PRETTY, LADY!

ザッザッザッ

...HUH?

HOW ABOUT NOW?


I WILL MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE ME!
AAAA

STOP!!!

YES!!

IT IM-MOBI-LIZED HER...

...?!

THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN...

NO GOOD! IT DIDN'T WORK!

I CAN'T EVADE HER!!

OH, NO!

leap!!!!

SSKT!!!

SSKTTT

SHE'S NO JOKE ...

...I CAN FEEL HER ENERGY LIKE A KNIFE EDGE.

WELL, I HAVE TO ADMIT ...

...REIGEN WAS RIGHT TO HAVE ME TAIL THIS DUDE.

slump

がくっ

...AND CHANNEL IT INTO ONE SHOT...

BUT IF I DRAW UPON ALL OF THIS GUY'S LATENT POTENTIAL...

IT'S YOUR PER-SONAL-ITY THAT'S THE *REAL* PROB-LEM!

LOOKS AREN'T EVERY-THING.

AM I PRETTY ?

SLASHHHH

URK ...!

whpp

whpp

whpp

HOW D'YA LIKE THIS ?!!

WOOSH

ドス stabb
ドス stabb
ドス stabb
ドス stabb
ドス thokk
ぜぇ
はぁ
whupp
...
SELF-HELP FOR PRINT MEDIUMS
SUN PSYCHIC UNION
G-GOTTA SAY... THIS BOOK REALLY EARNED ITS NAME...

SOS!

beep!

SWOOOSH

...TIME TO CALL FOR BACK-UP!!!

WELL ...

leap!

leap!

leap!

leap!

I SHOULD NOT HAVE HELPED ...

fwippp

fwipp

fwipp

NO, WAIT. YOU'RE SOAK-ING WET.

HOW DID YOU GET SO MESSY?

OH! CALL FROM SHIN-RA.

CAN YOU PICK THAT UP, MOB?

ピリリリリリリ

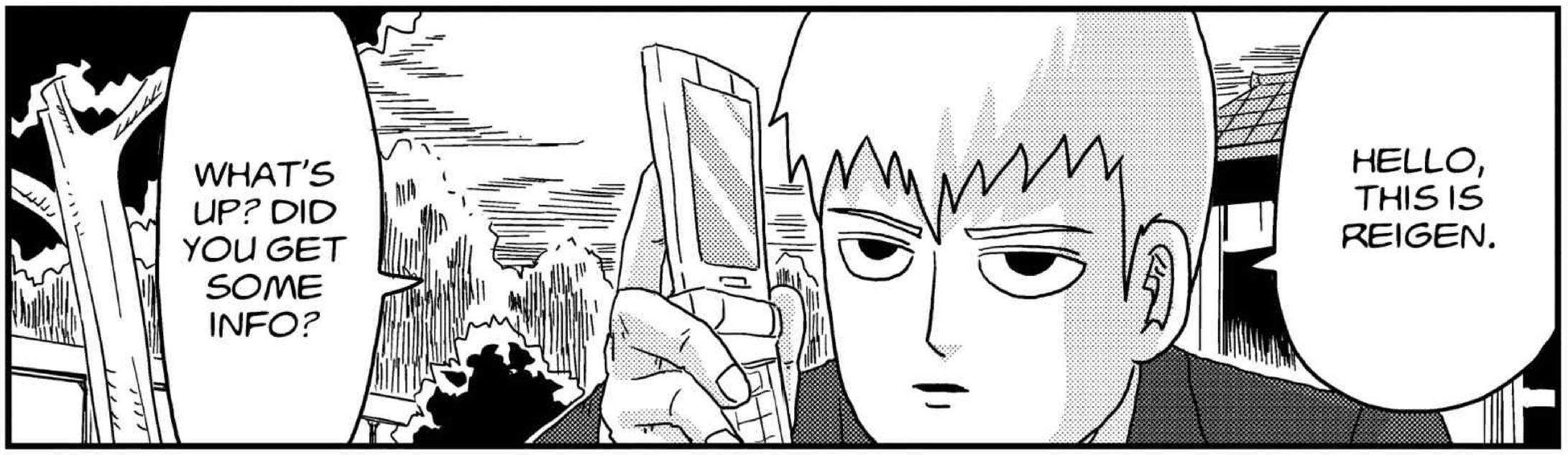
SO! ALL CLEAN NOW!

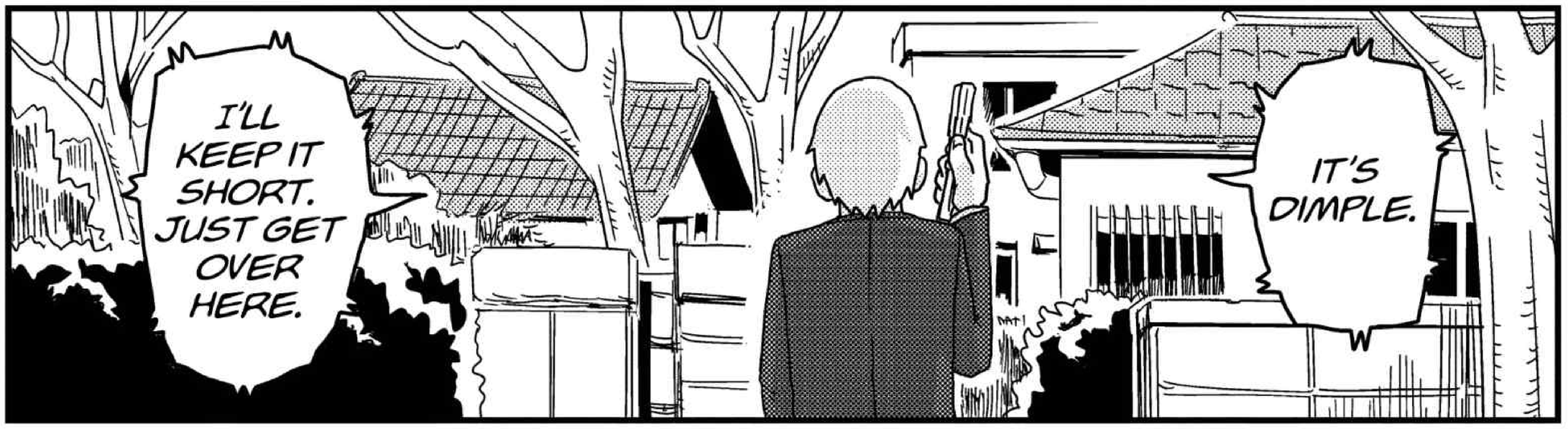
URBAN LEGEND:

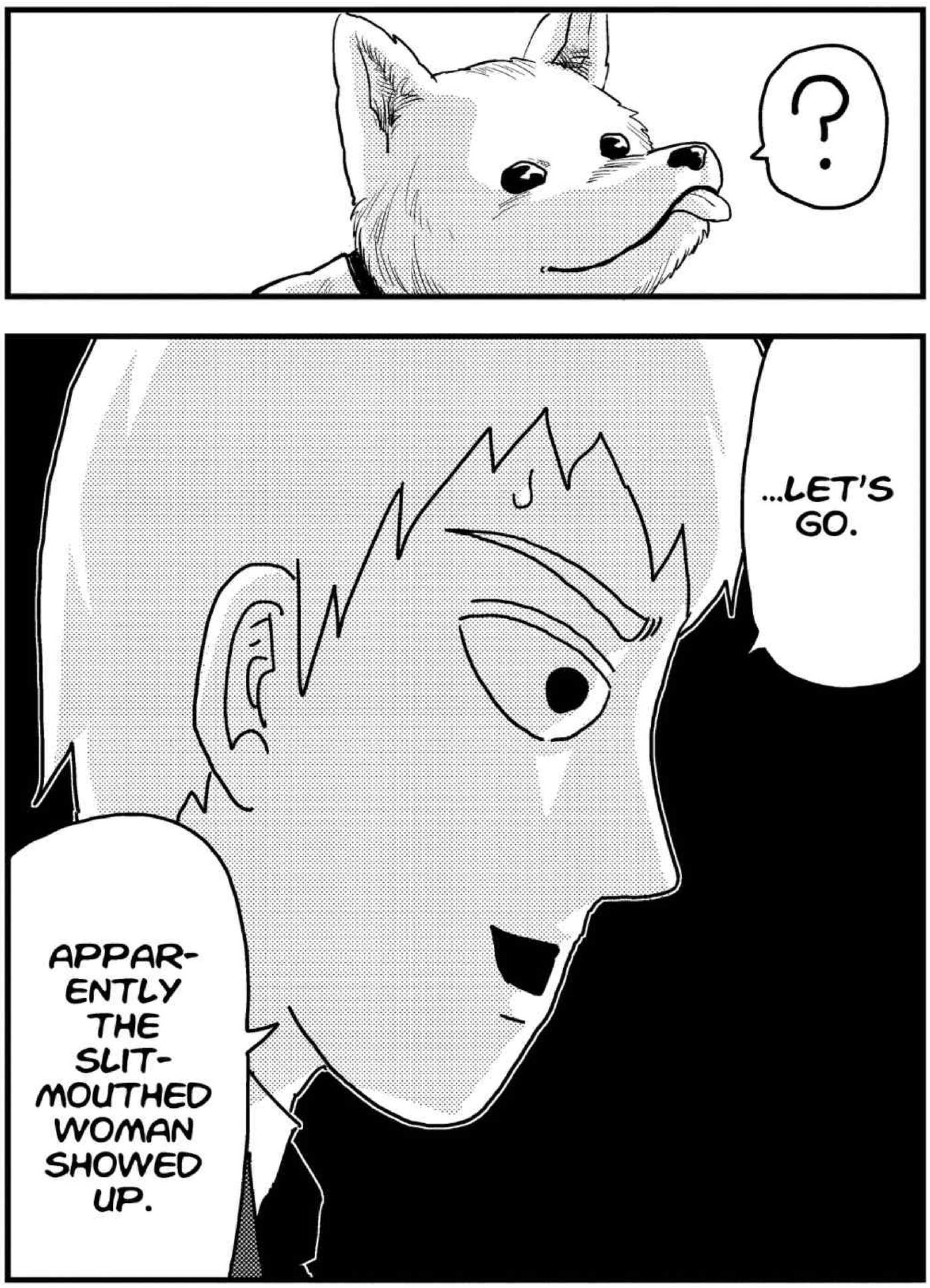
THE RED RAINCOAT

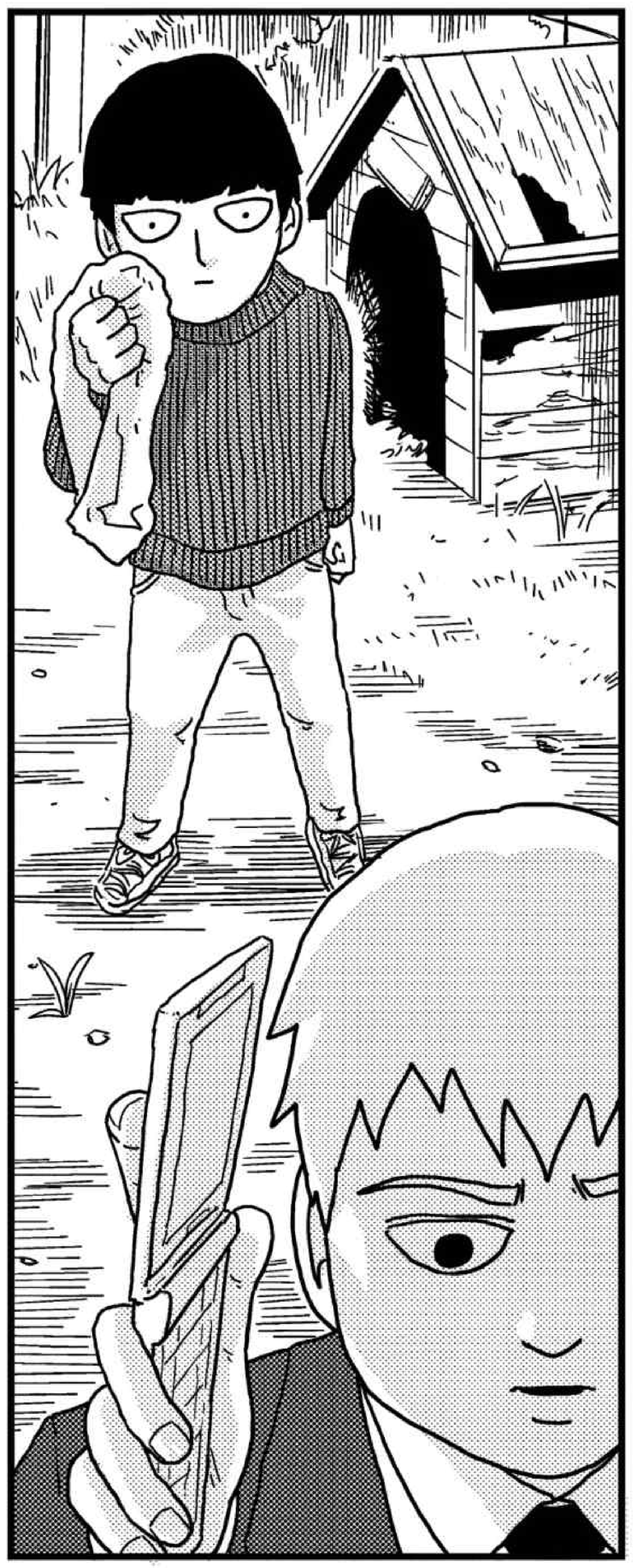
- **Wears the raincoat on sunny days.**
- **Walks around with a carving knife.**
- **Loves bathing in the blood of children.**
- **The raincoat keeps him dry when it's all wet.**
- **The raincoat wasn't red when he bought it.**

CHAPTER 55: HE HAS NO IDEA







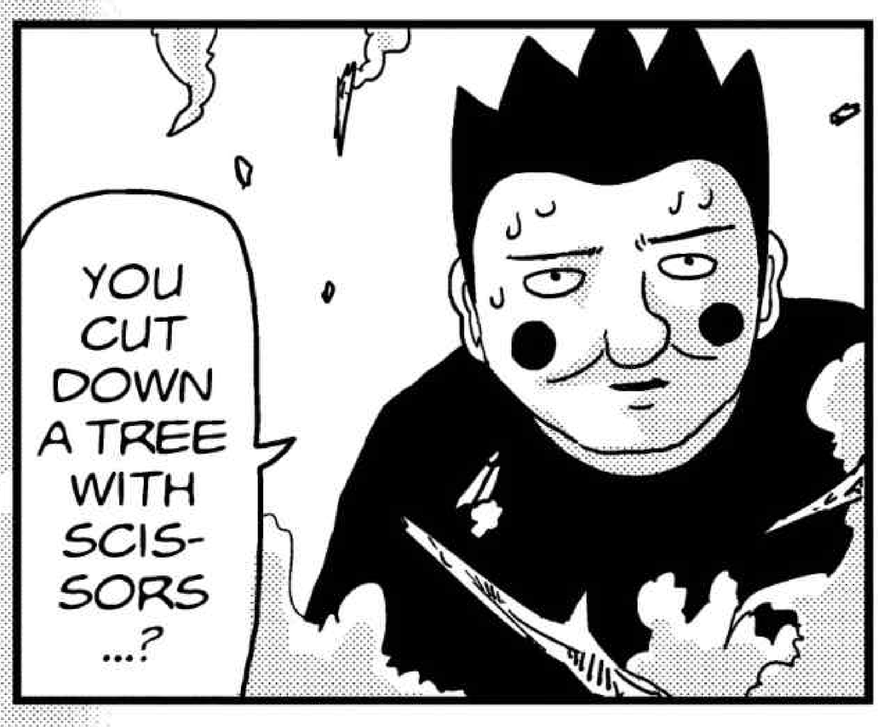


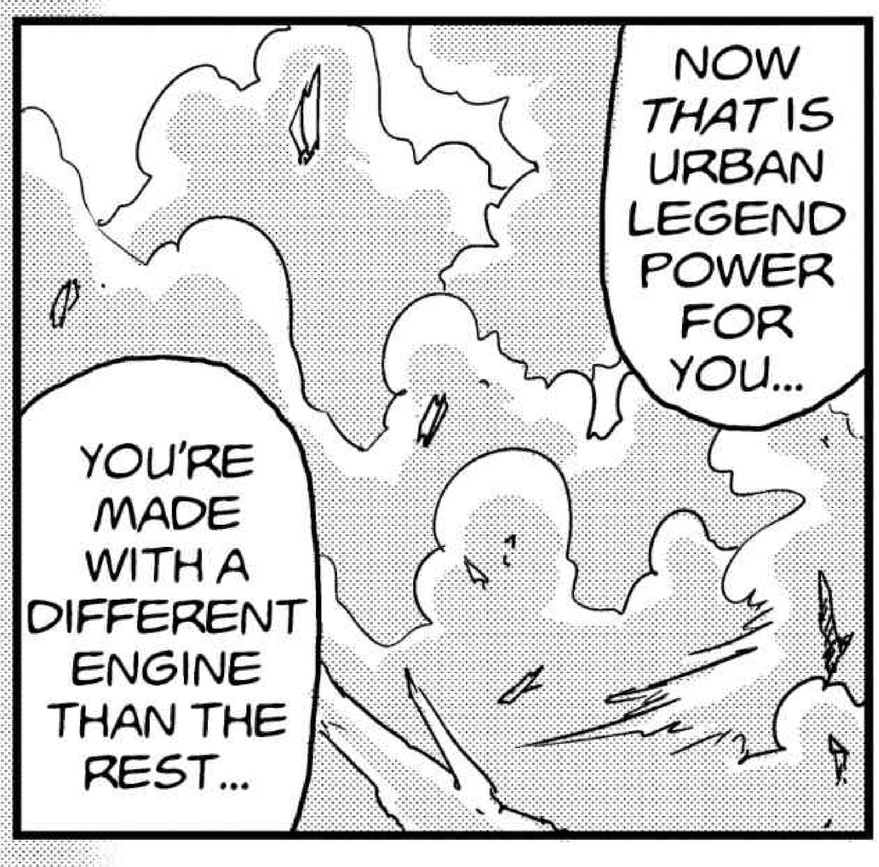
スパ
HOOM

kreeeeak kreeeeak
みしみし
snappp
krakkk

Lurch

...BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN AFRAID OF YOU FOR DECADES.


YOU CUT DOWN A TREE WITH SCIS-SORS ...?


NOW THAT IS URBAN LEGEND POWER FOR YOU...
YOU'RE MADE WITH A DIFFERENT ENGINE THAN THE REST...

krak
krak
krak
krak
krak
krak
AM I?
AM I?
AM I?
AM I?!
AM I?!!
krak skitch
AM I PRETTY?
AM I PRETTY?
AM I PRETTY?
skitch
skitch
skitch
fwak
fwak
fwak
fwak
fwak
thwak
OH-HO! SO NOW...
...IT'S ABOUT *FUNC-TIONAL* BEAUTY, EH?
THIS DUDE JUST TORE HIS ACHILLES TENDON ...!
skishh
snapp

THERE IS NO RUN-NING AWAY NOW...

POS-SESSING SOME-ONE WHO'S OUT OF SHAPE...

...SUCKS!

throb

ズキン

throb

ズキン

Please, Dimple.

HE'S GOING TO GROW INTO A MAN WHO'LL BE MUCH GREATER THAN ANY THREAT I'M FACING HERE...

...SO, TENDON OR NOT... I'D BETTER STAND UP TO IT.

IF I LET THIS DUDE DIE, SHIGEO WILL LOSE HIS TRUST IN ME.

AND I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN ...

klatter

Oh...

...no.

ふわっ fwsshhh

KAPOOM!!

THANK YOU, DIMPLE.

BETTER TAKE A PHOTO WITH MY PHONE FOR PROOF. HUH. SHE'S NOT APPEARING ON MY SCREEN...

A-HA! THIS IS THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN, EH?

SO SHE'S FOR REAL?

HER APPEAR-ANCE AND HER STRENGTH WERE BOTH ESTAB-LISHED BY HUMANS.

IT MANIFESTED IN THIS WORLD THROUGH THE IMAGINATIONS, FEAR, AND CURIOSITY OF MANY PEOPLE.

MEAN-ING?

I COULDN'T SAY IF SHE'S CORPOREAL OR NOT...

...THAT IS A CREATURE BORN OF RUMOR.

IF SHE EXISTS BECAUSE SHE FEEDS ON THE FEAR FROM ALL THE NATION'S SCHOOL-KIDS... THEN CUT OFF THAT FEED!

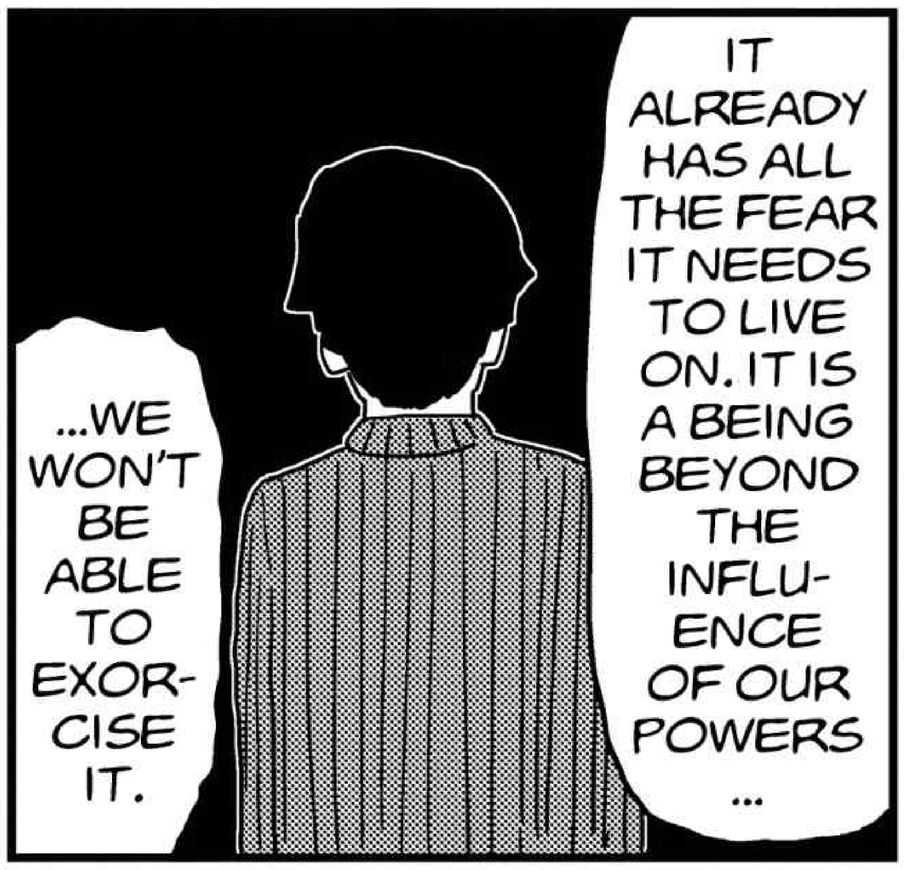
POINT TAKEN. MOB! GOT A JOB FOR YOU.

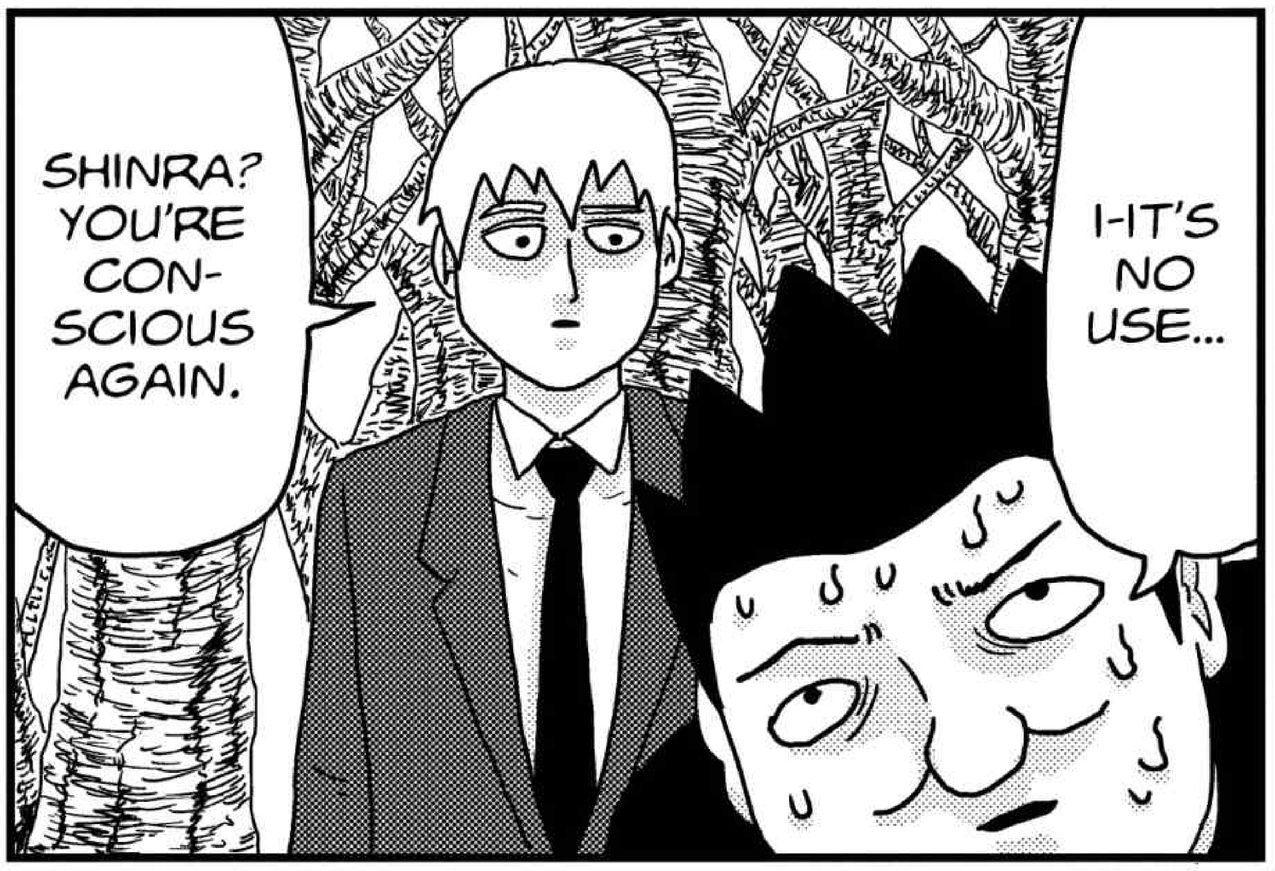
LOOK, PAL, JUST BE-CAUSE *YOU'RE* A FAKE, DON'T DISRE-SPECT THE LIVED EXPERI-ENCE OF THE DEAD!

AW, THAT'S JUST CRAZY TALK.

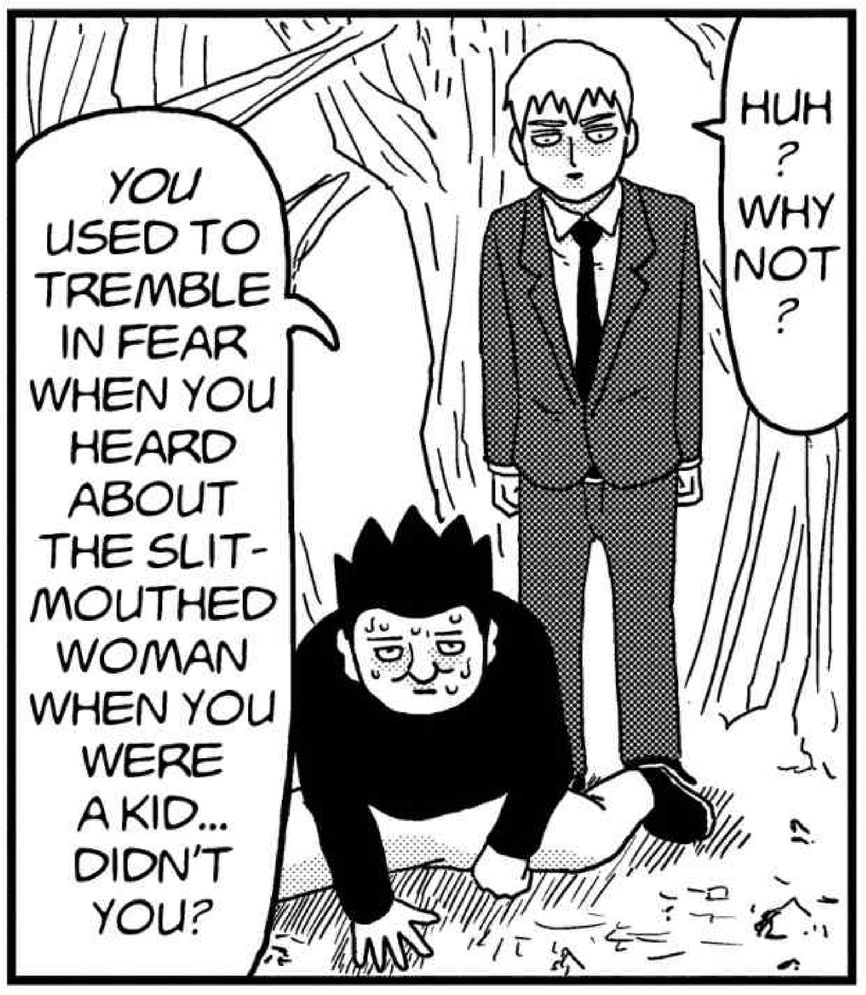
SO YOU'RE SAYING THE *IDEA* OF THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN BECAME REAL, AND THEN WALKED AROUND?

RRMMB
RRMMB
RRMMB
RRMMB
RRMMB


...WE WON'T BE ABLE TO EXOR-CISE IT.
IT ALREADY HAS ALL THE FEAR IT NEEDS TO LIVE ON. IT IS A BEING BEYOND THE INFLU-ENCE OF OUR POWERS ...


SHINRA? YOU'RE CON-SCIOUS AGAIN.
I-IT'S NO USE...

BECAUSE WE KNEW... ON THE WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL AT NIGHT, THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN MIGHT CUT OUR MOUTHS OPEN, TOO...
I NEVER BELIEVED SANTA CLAUS WAS GOING TO BRING ME TOYS...BUT I DID BELIEVE THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN MIGHT BRING OUT HER SCISSORS...


YOU USED TO TREMBLE IN FEAR WHEN YOU HEARD ABOUT THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN WHEN YOU WERE A KID... DIDN'T YOU?
HUH? WHY NOT?

YES... YES, I DID.

...AND NOW... SEEING SHE'S REAL...THE FEAR IS BURNING US.

AND EVEN THOUGH WE GREW UP... THE FEAR STILL SMOLDERED...

...DEEP DOWN.

GENERA-TIONS OF KIDS HAVE BEEN AFRAID OF HER.

AGAINST AN AVATAR OF FEAR, THE POWER OF THOSE WHO ARE AFRAID IS NO MORE THAN NOURISH-MENT FOR THE BEAST...

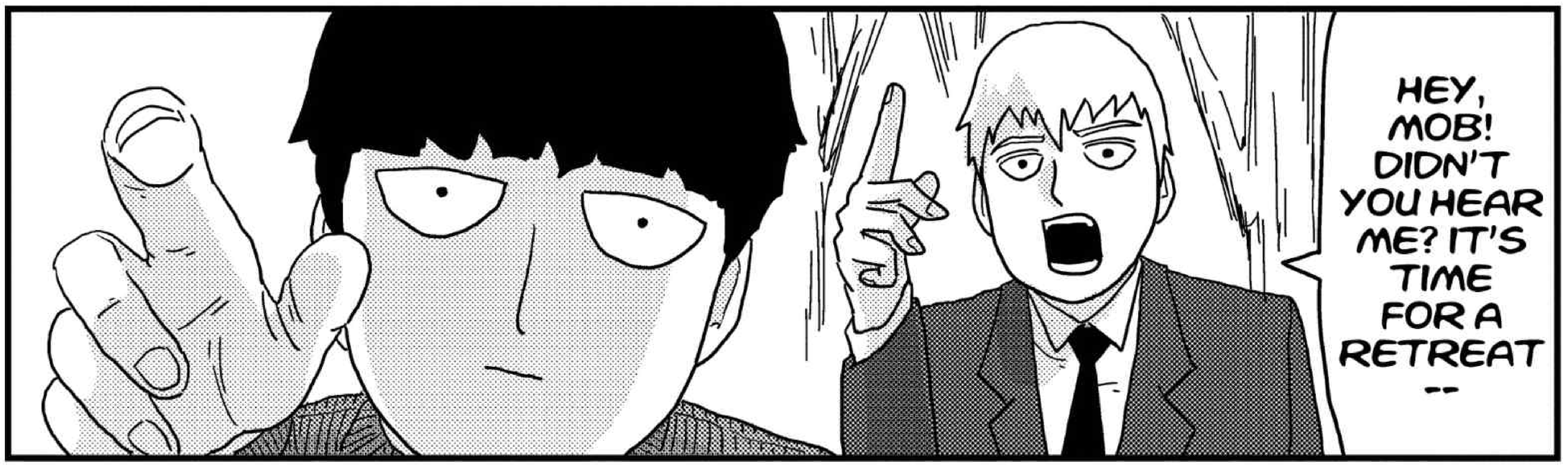
I MUST ADMIT... I'M GETTING A LITTLE SWEATY FROM THAT HEAT.

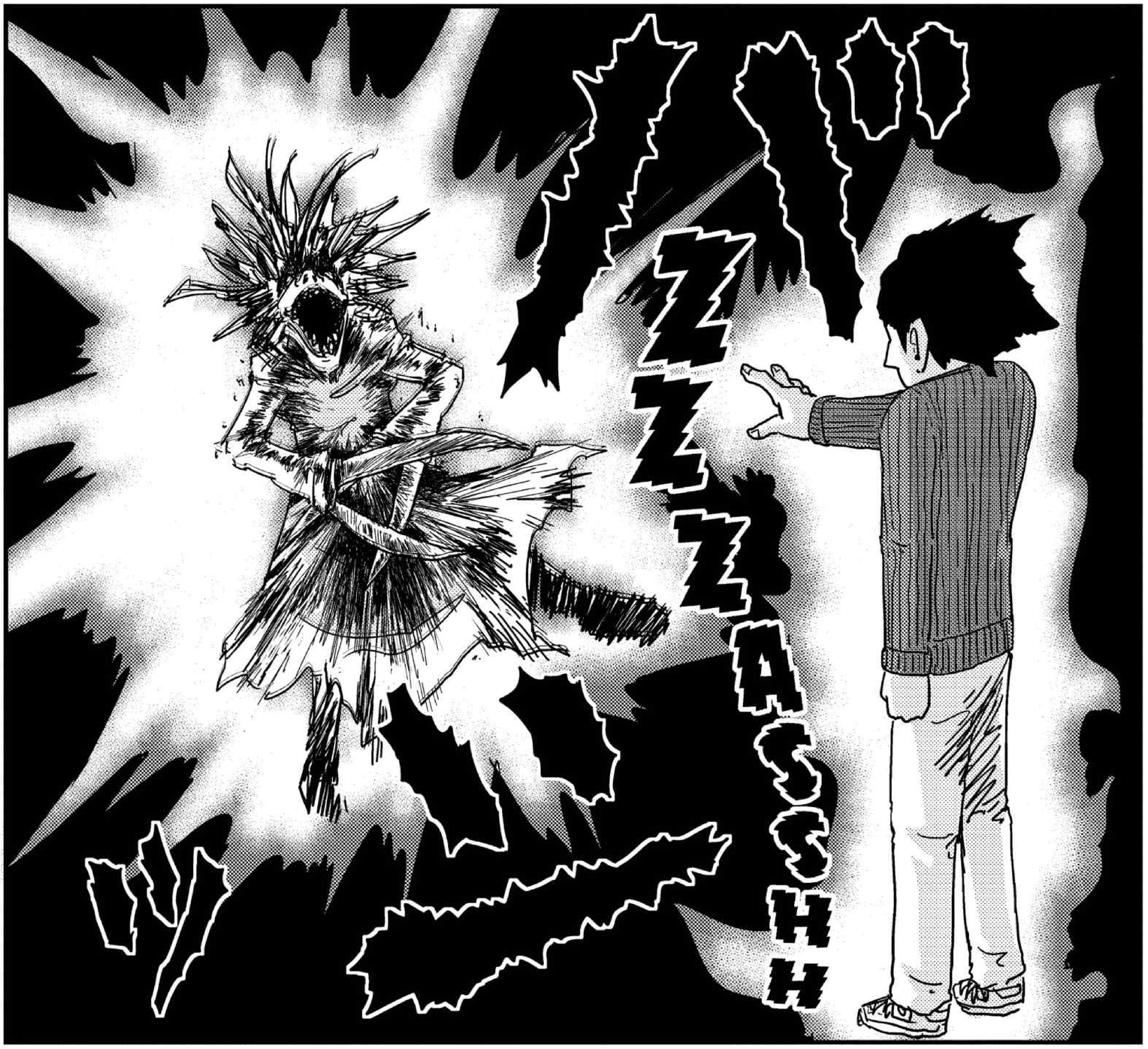
SO BE IT. GUESS WE HAVE TO RUN AWAY.

ATTACK-ING IT JUST MAKES IT STRON-GER.

THAT'S WHY MY OWN SPIRITUAL POWERS DIDN'T WORK ON IT. THAT THING ABSORBS THE POWER OF THOSE THAT FEAR IT.

...




ZZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZZ
ZZZZZZZ

?!

...IT IS WORKING.

I SEE. BECAUSE IT'S SHIGEO...

...BECAUSE HE DOESN'T SOCIALIZE... HE'S *ISOLATED* FROM ALL THOSE THINGS!

FADS... TRENDS... *URBAN LEGENDS* ...

SO HE DOESN'T KNOW HE *SHOULD* BE AFRAID...

HE NEVER HUNG AROUND AND HEARD THE STORIES FROM THE OTHER KIDS...

...OF THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN.

WHY WAS THAT MONSTER'S MOUTH SO BIG...?

UM, ACTUALLY, I WAS A LITTLE SCARED.

OH, I SEE!

SO SHE'S THAT TYPE OF CHAR-ACTER, HUH?

SHE'LL RUN YOU DOWN, MOB!

YOU MEAN YOU NEVER HEARD OF THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN? WHO'S FEARED BECAUSE SHE DRIVES AROUND IN HER SPIRIT MUSCLE CAR, WITH THE SPIRIT NITROUS INJECTION ...?

THIS IS WHY PEOPLE DON'T LET YOU IN ON THEIR CONVER-SATIONS.

YOU *COULD* AT LEAST ***PRETEND*** TO BE A LITTLE BIT SCARED OR SHOCKED.

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HER LIKE SHE'S SOME COPY-RIGHT-FREE DERIVA-TIVE WORK.

MOB, PLEASE DON'T GET ME WRONG. TODAY, YOUR BEING ASOCIAL SAVED OUR ASSES. I'M JUST SAYING THAT ONCE YOU BECOME AN ADULT...HMM, HOW SHALL I PUT THIS...? TRY TO THINK OF YOURSELF AS A DIPLOMAT IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY CALLED "***OTHER PEOPLE.***"

BUT MASTER, YOU TOLD ME BEFORE NOT TO WORRY ABOUT FITTING IN WITH OTHER PEOPLE...

I CALLED THE POLICE ON THE FLASHER, TOO...

SEEMS I HURT MY FOOT WHILE I WAS UNCON-SCIOUS, SO I'LL BE USING THESE A WHILE.

THANKS. THAT WAS A VALUABLE EXPERI-ENCE FOR ME !

SOLID. BEFORE YOU GO, HERE'S YOUR HALF OF THE FEE, AS AGREED.

...SO THAT WRAPS IT UP.

BUT *WE'VE* STILL GOT ONE MORE TASK...

...AND THAT'S TO CHECK OUT THE ***SPRINT-ING CRONE.***

SHE MAY BE AS POWER-FUL AS THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN ...

...YOU'LL NEED TO STAY FO-CUSED.

THE SIGHTINGS MENTION THIS TUNNEL... THIS TIME OF DAY.

HERE IT IS.

...

!

?

...SHE'S HERE AL-READY!

tc, tmp

tc, tmp

CAN IT BE...?

thmp

thmp

thmppp

ドゴ
thmp
ドゴ
thmp
ドゴ
thmp
ドゴ
thmp
MOB! EXOR-CISE HER !!
ドゴ
thmp
ドゴ
thmp
ドゴ
thmp

MY POWER'S NOT WORKING ON HER AT ALL...

ZAKU snake

ZAKU snake

...SHE MUST BE A SPIRIT SO STRONG... THAT THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN DOESN'T EVEN COMPARE ...!!

ZAKU shudder

SAY WHAT ...?!

WHAT DO WE DO ...?

Shhhtmptmptmptmp

tmp tmp tmp tmp tmp tmp

SHE'S COMING STRAIGHT AT US ...!

NOTH-ING! EXCEPT GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!

WELL, THEY SAY SHE GRABS YOU BY THE ANKLES, AND DRAGS YOU ALONG WITH HER UNTIL YOU DIE!

ｱﾅｻﾞdash

WHAT HAPPENS IF SHE CATCHES UP?!

shoo

RUN AWAY!

ooom

OH, NO ...!

tmpとtmp

tmp tmp tmp tmp tmp

tmp

ﾀｺ

RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN!

COME ON, SHI-GEO!

HURRY, MOB!

SHE'S CATCH-ING UP!!

RUN! RUN!

HAHH!

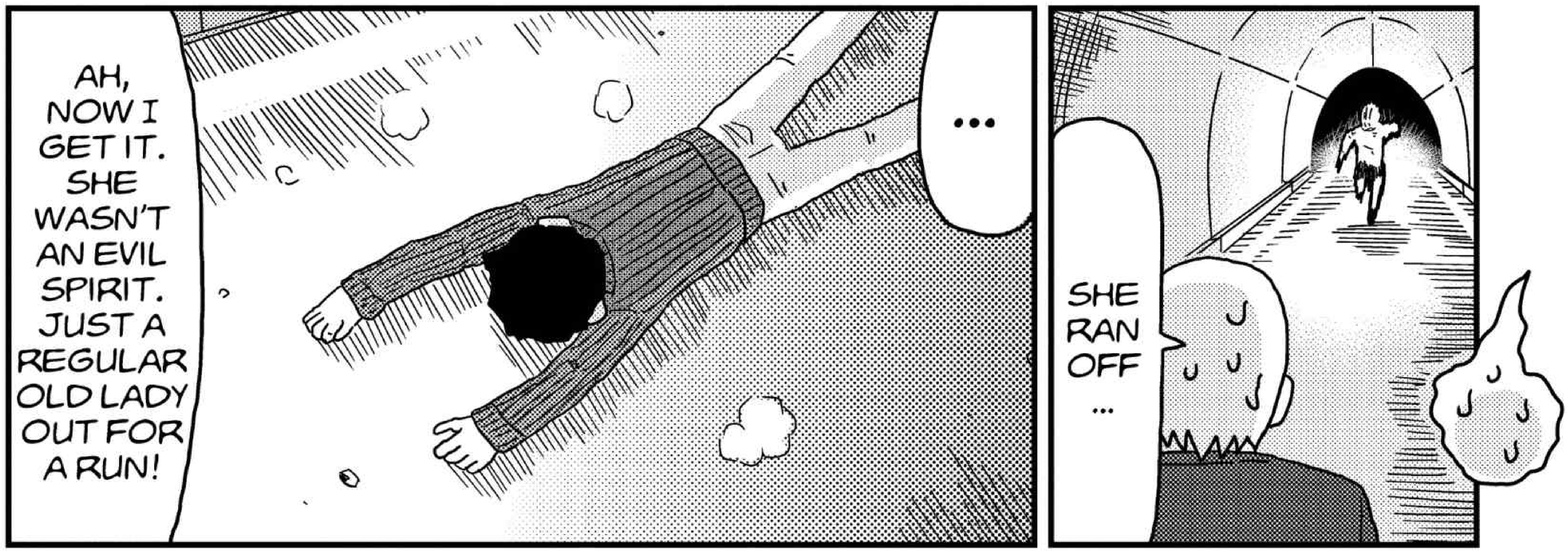
HAHH!

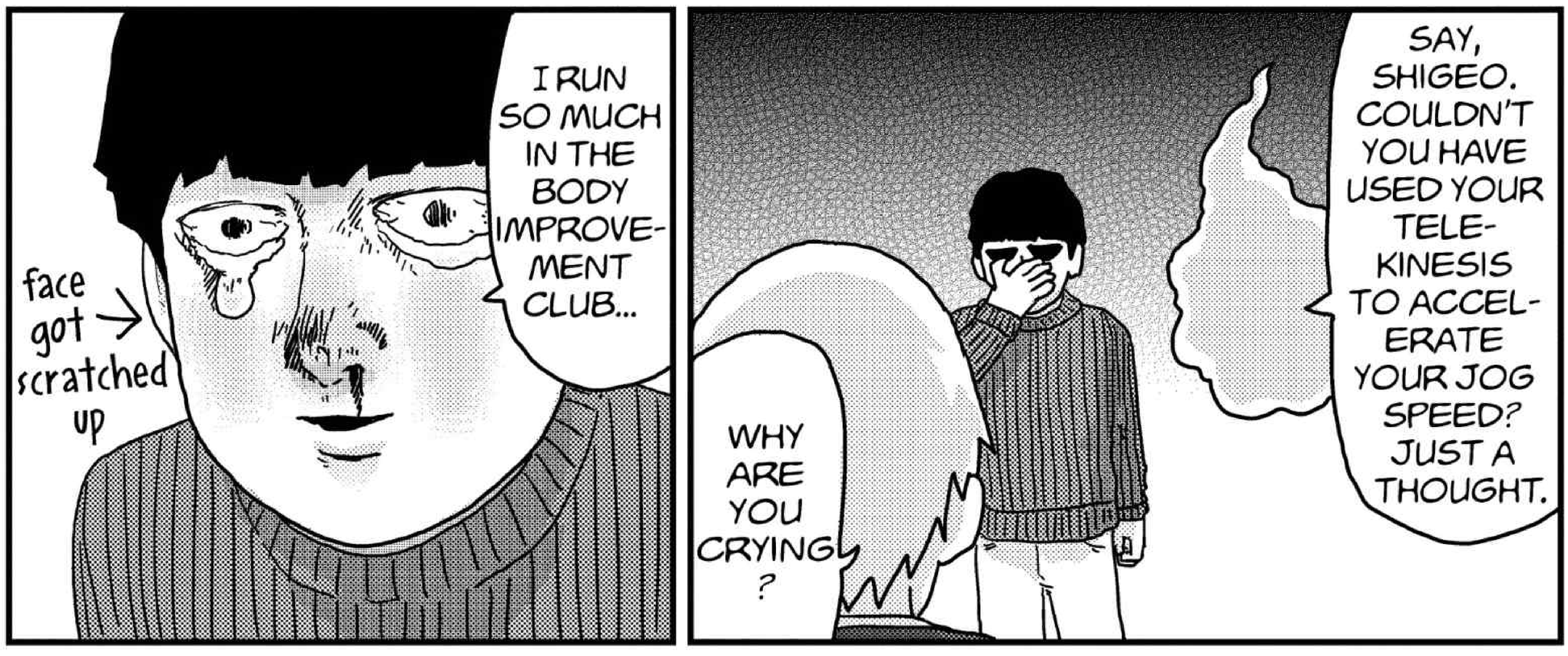
HAHH!

HAHH!

HAHH!

Whoopsh


AH, NOW I GET IT. SHE WASN'T AN EVIL SPIRIT. JUST A REGULAR OLD LADY OUT FOR A RUN!
...
SHE RAN OFF ...


face got scratched up
I RUN SO MUCH IN THE BODY IMPROVE-MENT CLUB...
WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
SAY, SHIGEO. COULDN'T YOU HAVE USED YOUR TELE-KINESIS TO ACCEL-ERATE YOUR JOG SPEED? JUST A THOUGHT.

AT LEAST I GOT A PICTURE OF HER...

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE IN A RACE...

AND SO THE SPRINTING CRONE BECAME MOB'S FIRST TRAUMATIC URBAN LEGEND.

...YET I GOT BEATEN BY THAT OLD LADY...

...SO I GUESS THAT'S THAT.

The next day

Spirits

WELCOME TO THE HOMEPAGE OF THE MAN WHO DEFEATED THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN

...IT ACTUALLY MAKES YOU LOOK *MORE* SHADY.

THE NEW STAR OF THE 21ST CENTURY SPIRIT MEDIUM ARATAKA REIGEN!

ENTER

YOU ARE VISITOR NUMBER 00000002

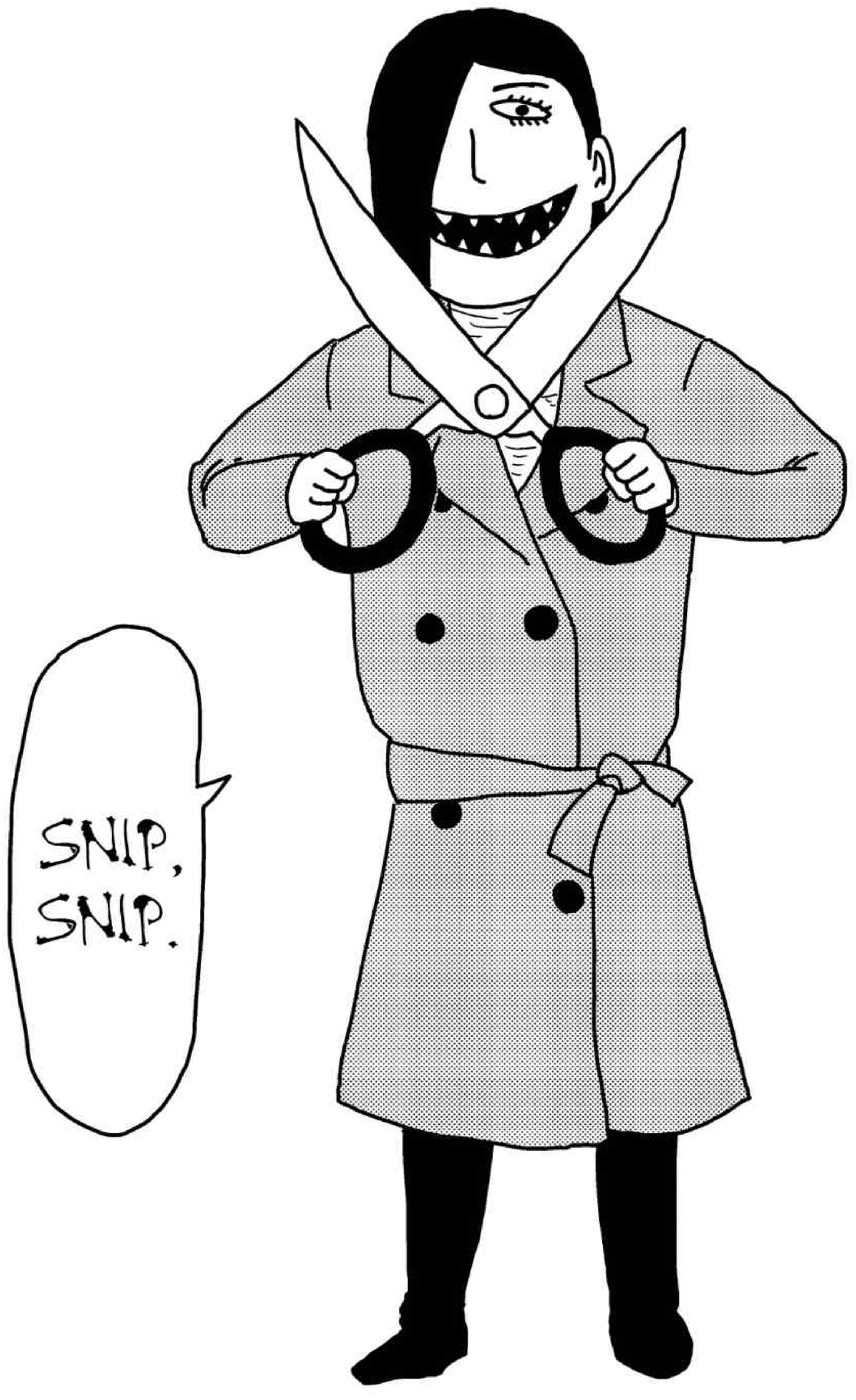
WE'LL BE GETTING *LOTS* MORE BUSINESS NOW!

HEY, CHECK IT OUT! MY NEW HOMEPAGE !!

URBAN LEGEND:

THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN

- **Approaches grade school kids walking home.**
- **Asks them a question: "Am I pretty?"**
- **Choose "YES" and she takes off her mask.**
- **Then slits your mouth with her scissors.**
- **Choose "NO" and she gets angry.**
- **Then kills you with her scissors.**
- **Basically no good answers to the question.**
- **But that's grownups for you.**



CHAPTER 56: SOLO MISSION

...

SO MASTER REIGEN SET UP A HOME-PAGE FOR SPIRITS & SUCH...

I CAN'T DO MAS-SAGES ...

...SO I SOME-TIMES HANDLE THE SIMPLE EXOR-CISMS IN-STEAD.

I GET A HIGHER WAGE NOW, TOO...

...AND AD-VICE ABOUT USING MY POW-ERS.

...SO I'VE NEVER ONCE FELT ANY DISSATIS-FACTION ABOUT MY PART-TIME JOB.

...AND ...

...SUR-PRISINGLY, WE REALLY DID GET A BOOST IN BUSI-NESS.

THE MASTER SAID HE'D AIM TO LEVERAGE THAT INTO SOME MEDIA EXPOSURE, TOO.

...A PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR WELL-BRED YOUNG LADIES.

HOLY HIGH SOCIETY GIRLS' ACADEMY ...

"Hi" "step" 1½

THAT'S WHERE WE'RE MEETING OUR NEW CLIENTS.

WELL, NOT UNTIL TODAY.

ALL RIGHT, NOW, MOB. REMEMBER TO ACT PROFESSIONAL.

私立聖ハイソ女学院

YOU! YOU!

DON'T PLAY DUMB !!

WHO ?

YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!

ピーヒョイ tweet!

私立聖ハイソ女学院

I KNEW IT WAS HOPE-LESS ...

...I DIDN'T WANT TO GO UNDER-COVER LIKE THIS...

BUT I'M GLAD WE GOT CAUGHT ...

YOU GOD-DAMN PER-VERT!

LIKE, I'M JUST TRYING TO GET AN EDUCA-TION...

DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME, YOU BASTARD ...!

A PONY-TAIL'S IN THE DRESS CODE...

THAT'S KINDA HARSH, ISN'T IT?

WELL, I'M A STU-DENT HERE.

THIS IS THE FRONT GATE! WE'VE GOT A SUSPICIOUS PERSON HERE! REQUEST-ING BACKUP!

UM...

"GO."

HUH?

GO ON IN, YOUNG LADY. CLASS HAS ALREADY STARTED.

ARE YOU OKAY, MISS?

WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT CREEPY GUY WHO WAS STALKING YOU.

...

ON MY OWN? SERI-OUSLY...?

ペコ

happy

ペコ

happy

...AT THE SPECIFIED TIME, THE CLIENTS WILL SLIP OUT OF CLASS AND WE'LL MEET WITH THEM ON THE ROOF.

UH, HE SAID...

IF I'M FOUND OUT, IT'S GOING TO BE A DISAS-TER...

IT'S OPEN.

OH ...!

THE ROOF ...

I'M HERE FROM THE AGENCY ...

...ARE YOU THE ONES THAT CALLED?

UMM... HELLO.

GULP

SOME-ONE'S HERE ...

Eh...?

Are they the not the ones...?

NEVER SEEN YOU. YOU A TRANS-FER?

HUH? WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

WELL, GET BENT !!

HEY, AND DOESN'T THIS CHICK LOOK LIKE A FRESHMAN ...?!

...OUR PARENTS CALLED YOU TO COME HERE AND LECTURE US ABOUT OUR BEHAVIOR OR SOMETHING ?

OH, DON'T TELL ME...

AND WHAT AGENCY ?

HOW ABOUT THIS! WE'RE GONNA LIVE OUR LIVES HOWEVER WE FREAKING PLEASE !

SO HOW 'BOUT YOU MIND YOUR OWN GOD-DAMN BUSI-NESS ...?!

NO... IT'S...

ARE YOU FOR REAL ?!

YOU THINK I'M GONNA STAND FOR GETTING LECTURED BY A TWERP LIKE YOU ?!

GET THE HELL OUT !!!

'CAUSE IF YOU DON'T, YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THAT AGENCY ON A STRETCHER !

UMM...

SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU.

OKAY.

WE'RE UP HERE.

YOO-HOO!

I'LL BE OFF.

トトン

tmp

トボ

tmp

AH... RIGHT. HELLO ...

...I'M FROM SPIRITS & SUCH.

IT WAS HILARIOUS THE WAY THOSE DELINQUENTS GOT IN YOUR FACE SO FAST.

Chihiro

WE'RE THE ONES WHO CALLED.

Mari

...SORT OF...AN ASSIS-TANT...

...I'M KAGE-YAMA.

I SEE... I'M SORRY WE PUT YOU THROUGH ALL THAT.

BUT I'M NOT SURPRISED. THE SCHOOL ADMINIS-TRATION THINKS WE'RE TALKING A BUNCH OF CRAP, AND THEY JUST IGNORE WHAT WE SAY.

HE WAS SEIZED AT THE FRONT EN-TRANCE.

HUH? WHAT ABOUT THAT REIGEN GUY?

IT SEEMS THE SCHOOL WOULDN'T GIVE US PERMIS-SION TO WORK HERE OPENLY... SO AGAINST MY WISHES...

HE CAME DRES-SED AS A GIRL TOO?

BOTH OF YOU?

I GUESS THERE'S SOME POLTER-GEIST KINDA STUFF, TOO? APPARENTLY THERE'S ALSO BEEN STUFF FLOATING IN MID-AIR.

THINGS HAVE BEEN DISAP-PEARING AT SCHOOL IN UNNATURAL WAYS.

WE HEAR WEIRD NOISES.

WHAT DID YOU TELL THEM ...?

PLUS... SOME PEOPLE HAVE SEEN SHADOWS THAT LOOK LIKE GHOSTS.

WE FIGURE THE SCHOOL HAS TO BE POS-SESSED.

YEAH, BRAS FLOATING AROUND THE CHANGING ROOMS WHEN NO ONE'S INSIDE.

"BRAS" ...?!

WE WERE WATCH-ING BEFORE. YOU'RE A BOY, BUT YOU WERE SHAKING LIKE A LEAF TALKING TO THOSE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS.

HOW REAS-SURING THAT YOU'RE SUCH A GENTLE-MAN.

THANK Y-YOU ...

HEY, DO THEY TEACH YOU GHOST-BUSTERS ABOUT *SAR-CASM* ...?

AND FOUND THE CHEAP-EST EXOR-CIST IN THE AREA.

SO WE WENT ON-LINE ...

HUH ?

AND *THIS* IS WHAT TURNED UP.

YEAH. IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR US TO COUNT ON YOU ...?

I'M WORRIED ABOUT THIS. YOU DON'T LOOK TOO RELI-ABLE.

...

WELL?

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS EXORCISE IT...

IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

...EVEN ON MY OWN...I'LL PULL THIS OFF SOMEHOW !!

CLASSES ARE ON, SO BE QUIET.

...AND THEN SLIP OUT AGAIN BEFORE ANYONE FINDS OUT ABOUT YOU.

RIGHT.

BUT THAT MAY BE BETTER, RIGHT...? YOU CAN INVESTI-GATE WHILE THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ARE IN CLASS...

THIS SUPER-NATURAL PRESENCE... IT SEEMS TO MOVE AROUND THE SCHOOL DURING THE DAY-TIME.

WE'LL SHOW YOU AROUND CAMPUS. LET US KNOW...

...IF YOU FEEL ANY-THING.

WELL? SENSE A GHOST ?

DOES THIS KID REALLY KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING...?

A VAGUE TRACE ...

EEEK!!!

WHAT THE --?!

HELLLP!!

whsshh 十 "

!

...YES, IT'S HERE.

SSShhh "

ドキッ gulp

I-IT... IT IS ...?

IT'S NEAR.

WHAT HAP-PENED ...?!

バタ trudd バタ trudd バタ trudd

THE TOI-LETS ?!

...IT WAS SOME-THING... W-WATCHING ME FROM THE TOP OF THE DOOR...

sob

IT... IT...

...I'LL FOLLOW THE TRACES OF THE SPIRIT.

NO-BODY CAME OUT THE EXIT... DID THEY ...?

...

YES.

CAN WE TRUST YOU?

THE POOL ...

NO-THING HERE ...

THE SPORT CLUB ...

IF WE FOLLOW IT ANY FUR-THER, SOME-THING COULD COME AT US.

THE SPIRIT IS ANGRY.

...!

NEXT, THE GYM...

THERE'S A PHYS ED CLASS GOING ON INSIDE...

...SO WHAT DO WE *DO*?

SAY *WHAT*? YIKES...

ウ゛ゥゥゥゥゥゥゥ

I'VE PUT UP A BARRIER AROUND THE GYM.

NOW TO DEFEAT IT.

THE SPIRIT IS LOCKED UP INSIDE.

I WILL END THIS.

Veeeeh

キーーー

LOOK AT IT!

IT'S HUGE ...!

OH, NO!

HUH ?!

"baff"

EEEEYAAA!!

WHAT IS THAT ?!

IT'S A MONSTER ...!

...YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE SEALING ME IN HERE.

HEY, KID...

THIS IS WHAT I'LL DO TO YOU!

SPLATTK

EVIL SPIRIT: ODOR SNIFFER

YOU DARE TO TREAT ME LIKE A FOOL...

...AND INVADE MY PARADISE?

WE HIRED A SPIRIT MEDIUM'S ASSISTANT TO EXORCISE IT! OKAY, KAGE-YAMA!

DUDE, DO YOUR THING! I MEAN... YOU GO, GIRL!

UM...

I KNOW! RUN AWAY! COACH, BE OUR DECOY!

EEK!! EEEK !!!

WHAT CAN WE DO?!

...SOME-ONE WHO CAN DEAL WITH THIS!

EVERY-ONE, JUST CALM DOWN!!

WE GOT...

SWOOSH

DAMN YOU ...!!

ヒンヤリ

...HUH ?

WHOOM

I'M GOING TO BE ERASED ...!!!

OH, NO...I UNDERES-TIMATED THIS RUNT.

EEP! IT'S LOOK-ING THIS WAY!!

WRIGGLE

I KNOW! I'LL TAKE A HOSTAGE AND FLEE...

LOOK OUT!

WOOM

NOOOOO...!!

I CHOOSE YOU! COME WITH ME, WILL YOU?!

gasp

ZZZap

float

SLASSH

GYAAAAAAGGH!

...!

ウ
ウウウウウウ

ボ
splott
ドビ
ド
splott

...IT'S OVER.

HOW DID YOU DO THAT ?!

WHAT CLASS ARE YOU IN?

urk
ビク

WHOA! THAT WAS AMAZ-ING!

THAT WAS SO COOL !!

WANNA WALK HOME TO-GETHER ?!

TELL US!

kyaaaa!

kyaaaa!

...

IT TURNED OUT WE *COULD* RELY ON YOU...

YOU SURE *DID!*

THAT WAS AWE-SOME! LISTEN TO THEM CHEER FOR YOU! HEY, YOU DID *GREAT*!

DAMN...

THE SAME?

FROM THE LOOK OF YOU, YOU'RE JUST THE SAME AS ME, AREN'T YOU...?

AND WHEN EVEN I WAS CLOSE...SO CLOSE TO FINDING CONTENT...

...TO THINK I COULD BE EXORCISED BY SOMEONE AS DULL AS YOU.

!

IF YOUTH IS A DRAMA, YOU JUST HANG BACK... PART OF THE CROWD. RIGHT...?

...YOU AND I ARE THE SAME.

THE WAY YOU TREMBLE AROUND WOMEN ...

LET ME ASK YOU...

AND NOW THAT'S OVER, TOO.

...I WAS AT LEAST ENJOYING BEING A GHOST.

EVER... EVER SINCE I DIED... THINGS HAD FINALLY BECOME FUN FOR ME...

...THAT LIFE YOU'VE STILL GOT... DO YOU ENJOY IT TO THE FULL ...?

So when he was alive...

...he was something like me.

...

HE ALREADY RAN OFF! SHIT, HE'S FAST!

QUICK! OPEN THE GATE AND CATCH HIM!

THAT PER-VERT JUST JUMPED THE WALL ...!

He may just have been awkward with people.

WELL, YOU GOT THE MEDIA EXPO-SURE YOU WANT-ED.

PERV STILL AT LARGE

NEWS

WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO BE SAR-CASTIC ...?

...IT IS THOUGHT THE SUSPECT MAY HAVE LET DOWN HIS PONYTAIL AND CHANGED INTO A CHEAP BUSINESS SUIT TO AVOID DETECTION.

THE ENTIRE AREA REMAINS ON STRICT ALERT...

MOB AT 42%

OH! IT'S IN THE PAPER TOO...

IT IS? LET ME SEE.

ズズズ…

CHAPTER 57: ROOTS

MAKE NO MISTAKE ...THAT THING IS NOT OF THIS WORLD.

I WAS ABLE TO BUY THIS LAND CHEAP IN THE FIRST PLACE BECAUSE IT HAD SOME KIND OF "SHADY HISTORY"...

...BUT IT'S NOT IN MY NATURE TO CARE ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT.

...I'LL SUDDENLY SENSE SOMETHING IN THE NIGHT, AND WHEN I GO OUT TO SEE WHAT IT IS...

THE WEIRDNESS ALWAYS HAPPENS RIGHT BEFORE HARVEST...

...AND IN THE MORN-ING...

WHEN-EVER IT HAPPENS ...I'M TOO FRIGHT-ENED TO GO ANY CLOSER ...

...I SEE SOME-THING TWISTING AND TURNING AROUND IN THE FIELDS.

...I JUST CAN'T PUT UP WITH IT ANY-MORE.

I TALKED TO OTHER FARMERS I KNOW... BUT THEY SAY THEY DON'T KNOW THE CAUSE...

AND AFTER THREE YEARS OF THIS...

...THAT WERE NOW ALL WITH-ERED AND ROTTEN.

THERE WOULD BE CROPS THAT HAD BEEN FINE AND HEALTHY ...

YOU MADE THE RIGHT DECI-SION.

AND SO THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU.

THERE'S SOME-THING UNNATU-RAL ABOUT IT, WITHOUT A DOUBT.

HMM. YOU'RE SAYING YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN PAY?

...I MEAN... I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH YOU USUALLY CHARGE FOR THIS SORT OF THING...

...MY SON IS STARTING SCHOOL NEXT YEAR, SO...

I'M SORRY THAT YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY, BUT...

THERE IS A SMALL PROB-LEM...

EXOR-CISM IS HARD WORK, YOU KNOW.

...SO IT WILL COST YOU SOME-THING.

WELL, I AM TRYING TO RUN A BUSINESS...

IT DE-PENDS ON THE AMOUNT ...

...!

...IF I GET RID OF WHATEVER IS HAUNTING YOUR FIELDS...

YOU GIVE ME 30 PER-CENT OF YOUR NEXT HAR-VEST.

I WOULD NEED A FORM OF COM-PENSA-TION...

HOW ABOUT THIS...

PACKAGE ,000 YEN FOR TH

A SHARE-CROP-PER EXOR-CIST!

HMM...

...YOU MAY LEAVE THE REST TO *ME*.

HAR-VEST TIME IS CLOSE.

IF IT GOES LIKE THE OTHER YEARS, THAT CREEPY PRESENCE WILL APPEAR AGAIN...

...AND THIS FIELD WILL BE BLIGHT-ED.

That evening...

YES, BUT YOU SEE, THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THE FERTILIZER OR SOIL.

MEAN-ING THERE'S NO MORE I CAN DO...

I ASKED YOU...

...TO PLEASE STOP CALLING ME OUT OF THE BLUE.

THERE IS A PRESENCE HERE...BUT IT'S WEAK, SO IT'S HARD TO DETERMINE ITS NATURE.

PERSON-ALLY, I THINK IT MAY BE THE WORK OF A SPIRIT, BUT...

WHAT DO *YOU* THINK, MOB?

DO SUCH THINGS EXIST?

HMM. HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A DAIKON RADISH FAIRY?

DID...

...THAT SCARE-CROW JUST *MOVE* ...?

...IT DID.

YES...

...HEH.

...

I OVERHEARD YOUR CONVERSATION THIS AFTERNOON TOO...SPIRIT MEDIUM,

YOU THINK YOU CAN GET RID OF ME?

MOB, PUT A QUICK END TO THIS.

EXOR-CISE IT, PLEASE.

ドゴォォォ

ルシッ

Shhh

Kreek ギ Kreek ギ Kreek ギ Kreek ギ Kreek ギ Kreek ギ

HA

HA HA

HA HA

HA HA

HA!

HAAAAA

HA HA

HA HA

!

!!!

KAKUDOM

HA...

flap
flap
flap
flap
fwump

IS IT OVER ...?

YES.

IT WAS JUST IN THE SCARECROW. IT DIDN'T REALLY DO THAT MUCH DAMAGE...

しゅる
swssh
しゅる
swshh

swsh
しゅる
shwsh
しゅる

AH! IT SEEMS THE SPIRIT IS ACTUALLY UNDER-GROUND ...

THE SCARE-CROW WAS A DECOY ...?!

しゅる
しゅる
swishsh!

...?

MOB, WHAT'S GOING ON?! THE PLANT ROOTS...

ガクン
rattle

krakk krakk krakk krakk

chhgshhh

HIGH-LEVEL EVIL SPITIT: WRITHER

WHY WOULD YOU ROT THESE CROPS AFTER THEY HAVE GROWN ?

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WORK IT TAKES TO GET THEM TO THE POINT OF HARVESTING ...?!

YOUR LAND? MAY I SEE YOUR DEED OR TITLE CERTIFICATE ...?!

THIS IS MY LAND.

I WILL GIVE IT TO NO ONE.

DO YOU THINK A SPIRIT CANNOT EAT?

WELL, YES...I SORT OF ASSUMED ...

ROT? IT MAY SEEM TO YOU, HUMAN. BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

THAT'S BITTER, TWISTED HARASSMENT !

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

FEAR NOT! THEY ARE ONLY ROTTEN BECAUSE I SUCKED THE LIFE FROM THEM!

IT'S TRUE, I CANNOT ABSORB NUTRIENTS FROM THE GROUND AND AIR AS THE CROPS DO.

BUT ONCE GROWN AND RIPENED... I CAN ABSORB THE VITALITY FROM THE CROPS THEMSELVES !!!

BLOW THIS THING AWAY !!

MOB !

YOU... YOU VEG-GIE THIEF ...!

NOT BAD, BOY ...!!

YOU'VE GOT POWER. BUT AS FOR THIS OTHER FELLOW...

WHA ?!?

!

WWAAA

SSSSS

...

...AS YOU WITNESS ME STRANGLE THIS MAN TO DEATH AND THEN TEAR HIM TO PIECES.

BUT KEEP TRYING ...

KKKKKK

...YOU SHOULD FEEL HONORED.

fwwr!!!

fwwr!!!

fwwr!!!

SSSSS

IIIIII

PPPPPP

AND BE BURIED DEEP IN THE EARTH... AND TURNED BY WORMS INTO NUTRI-ENTS...

...TO ONE DAY FEED THE CROPS... THEN FEED ME...

YOU ARE A CHILD AND NAIVE ...

...EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE ABOUT TO DIE...

SHIPPP

Could I do that too...?

...I'd be doing the same thing as this evil spirit.

...?

IT'S STOP-PED.

I SENT A MORE POWERFUL PSYCHIC FLOW TO THE PLANTS THAN THE EVIL SPIRIT... AND I WAS ABLE TO CONTROL THEM.

GOOD MOVE. WELL DONE FIGURING IT OUT.

I TRIED ...

...SENDING ORDERS TO THE PLANTS.

AND THE PLANTS HAVE FOUND THE SPIRIT'S CENTER...SO I'LL DRAG IT UP.

GHHHSSSHHH

...!

SHWAK

...BUT NOW... YOU ARE TOO CLOSE TO MY ESSENCE, LAD...

YOU MAY HAVE OVER-RIDDEN MY CONTROL OF THE PLANTS ...

...YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS...

YOU...

whipp

ヒュー

fwipp

ヒュー

!!VWOOOM

NOW, DIE !!!

zzwwsshh

ZZZ

Krnnch

Spark

パラパラ shake

パラ shake

WHAT'S THAT?

...SO I HIT THE CLIENT UP FOR A BIT OF SOIL... FERTI-LIZER...

Spirits & Such

THE CROPS I WAS EXPECT-ING TO GET PAID IN ALL GOT SMASHED TO SMITHER-EENS...

WHAT DO YOU SAY... ...TO A KITCHEN GARDEN ?

A LITTLE PLANT-ER.

TRY THAT TRICK YOU DID YESTER-DAY! SEND YOUR PSYCHIC ENERGY INTO THEM!

OH, THAT REMINDS ME! I'VE GOT SOME MINI TOMATO SEED-LINGS HERE...

IN THE END, PAY-MENT IN KIND...

BROC-COLI.

...AND SEEDS.

OH, AND I DIDN'T FORGET YOUR SHARE.

flap

LET'S SEE IF THEY GROW ...!

nudge

nudge

nudge

nudge

I BET THEY TASTE AS GOOD AS THEY LOOK...!

WE CAN SELL THESE FOR A PREMIUM! PSYCHIC TOMA-TOES ...!!

nudge

nudge

nudge

...MOB, AS BONUS PAY, YOU CAN TAKE THESE PSYCHIC TOMA-TOES HOME WITH YOU.

...

ひpluck よい

HM...

HM...

chomp

MOB AT 47%

URBAN LEGEND:

THE SPRINTING CRONE

- **Fast.**
- **Mainly takes on mountains.**

CHAPTER 58: MOUNTING DANGERS

SO AS I TOLD YOU ON THE PHONE THE OTHER DAY...

Spirits & such

IT WON'T HAPPEN, NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU ASK.

NOW I MUST REQUEST THAT YOU PLEASE LEAVE.

...PUTTING CURSES ON PEOPLE ...

...ISN'T WHAT I DO HERE.

I'M ASKING NICELY. PUT A CURSE ON THIS GUY.

BE STRAIGHT WITH ME. HOW MUCH?

WHY CAN'T YOU? I'M A PAYING CLIENT, MAN!

BUT COME ON NOW...

...YOU'RE A SPIRIT MEDIUM, RIGHT?

...

OFF

DON'T GIVE ME THAT!

I DIDN'T DRAG YOU HERE.

QUIT KIDDING AROUND, PAL! I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO SEE YOU!

I WILL NOT DO IT.

GREAT! YOU'LL DO IT FOR FREE?!

NOTHING!

Eh...?!

YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE... I'LL DO IT.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

YOU'LL DO IT?!

IT WAS WORTH ME COMING HERE THEN!

AND I TAKE NO RESPON-SIBILITY FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS.

BUT JUST THIS ONCE, OKAY?

squipp キュポンッ

カ SKWIKK キ

SKWIKK カ キ

SKWIKK カ キ

IT WAS AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE ...

THERE IT IS.

ONE MO-MENT, PLEASE!

WHAT IS IT?

CURSE

KEEP THIS CLOSE TO YOU.

THIS CONTAINS A CURSE ...

PROBABLY.

NO NEED TO PAY ME. JUST DON'T TELL ANYONE ELSE I DID THIS.

...IF YOU CARRY IT AROUND, EVENTUALLY... ...SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN TO HIM.

...THEN I WILL PUT A CURSE ON YOU.

I SEE, I SEE ...

BUT IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF JOKE...

BUT YOU'RE GOING TO RUN ACROSS ONE OR TWO PEOPLE LIKE THAT EVEN IN A NORMAL LIFE.

I CAN UNDER-STAND HOW YOU MIGHT HATE SOME-ONE SO MUCH...

...YOU'D WANT TO CURSE THEM.

HE'S FINALLY GONE.

JEEZ, HE WAS STUB-BORN.

SOME-ONE I'D WANT TO CURSE...? HMM... HMM...

WHAT ABOUT YOU ...?

YOU DON'T NEED TO THINK ABOUT IT THAT DEEP.

DO YOU HATE ANY-ONE LIKE THAT, MAS-TER...?

NAH, NOT ME.

OFF

NOPE.

ダラ sweat

ダラ sweat

DON'T BUILD IT UP LIKE THAT! YOU SCARED THE CRAP OUTTA ME...!

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

"...

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

"

...?

THAT WAS A SAFE CHILDBIRTH TALISMAN I BOUGHT BY ACCIDENT INSTEAD OF A ROAD SAFETY ONE.

HM, WELL... I JUST SPOKE WITHOUT REALLY THINKING.

...WAS IT OKAY TO DO WHAT YOU DID?

THAT MAN BE-FORE ...

LIKE, WHAT IF...

I WON-DER IF THAT'S REALLY TRUE...

IT'S NO SKIN OFF ANY-ONE'S NOSE, RIGHT?

IT WON'T REALLY PUT A CURSE ON ANYBODY.

THAT'S A VERY FRIGHT-ENING THING...

...I THINK.

WILL HE LIVE OUT HIS ENTIRE LIFE THINKING HE'S PLACED A CURSE ON SOMEONE ...?

WHAT IF THAT MAN ...

... CHOOSES TO BELIEVE THAT CHARM DOES WORK?

How rare...

...for him to have an opinion based on his own thoughts.

Mob...?

Wait... is he right?

What he just said... is there an issue...?

Have I... overlooked something...?

...it could spell trouble.

...And if I don't figure out what exactly...

IT WAS CERTAINLY DIFFERENT THAN THE REQUESTS I USUALLY GET.

AND I FELT I HAD TO REFUSE IT... BUT I REFLEXIVELY TOLD A PACK OF LIES AND GOT HIM OUT THE DOOR IN THAT HALF-ASSED WAY... JUST BECAUSE THAT WAS THE EASIEST THING TO DO.

IT'S CLEAR SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY I HANDLED IT BOTHERED MOB...

ピリリリリリリリ

...!

...WE'VE GOT A CLIENT'S APARTMENT TO VISIT.

LOOK AT THE TIME ALREADY ...

I SENSE SOME-ONE'S GAZE ON THE STREET AT NIGHT...

...AND THEY RUM-MAGE THROUGH THE GARBAGE I PUT OUT.

AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS A STALKER, AND I WENT TO THE POLICE.

THE WIN-DOW ...?

RECENTLY IT'S BEEN LOOKING AT ME THROUGH THE WINDOW.

BUT THE THING IS...

...I SEE.

THIS IS THE FIFTH FLOOR, AND THERE IS NO VER-ANDA...

IT DOESN'T FEEL *HUMAN.*

ALSO, ANY SIGNS OF A ROPE HAVING BEEN TIED AND LET DOWN FROM THE ROOF.

LOOK AROUND OUTSIDE THIS WINDOW...

...FOR HIDDEN CAMERAS OR BUGS.

YEP.

DIMPLE, ARE YOU THERE?

AND IF YOU FIND ANY EVIL SPIRITS ...EAT THEM.

キョロ glance

キョロ glance

WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THIS ...?

BUT THAT DOESN'T RESOLVE THE CLIENT'S STALKING PROBLEM...

NOT A THING.

NO SNOOPING DEVICES, NO SIGNS OF PEOPLE CLIMBING AROUND.

UM, I KNOW I'M A SPIRIT, BUT COULD YOU OPEN THE WINDOW?!

I SEE. GOOD WORK.

スイ SWISH!!

SO IS IT A GHOST ...?

THAT OUGHT TO BE MY LINE, YOU SON OF A BITCH.

LUST? BUT WHAT OF LOVE, DIMPLE?

NOT THAT I WANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION WITH YOU.

I DON'T THINK THERE ARE MANY SPIRITS WITH MORTAL LUSTS.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

DUNNO. EVEN I'VE GOT NO IDEA.

LET'S SAY SOME MAN'S GHOST HAUNTS A WOMAN. WHAT'S HIS POSSIBLE MOTIVE...?

kchakk チャンッ

カタカタ rattle

カ rattle

rattle

shudder

ANGRY BECAUSE I CALLED A SPIRIT MEDIUM HERE...

I'M SCARED ...I D-DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT SUCH THINGS ...!

klatter

klatter

klatter

klankk

AN EARTH-QUAKE ...?

...NO! A POLTER-GEIST...?!

W-WHAT DO WE DO...? IT MUST BE ANGRY...

rattle

IT IS, ISN'T IT...?

EEEEEEK!!!

OUT...

OFF

IT STOP-PED ...?

THAT'S ...

MOB!

TAKE IT OUT!

I'M SORRY...! I'M SO SORRY!!

ZOOOOOO!!

?!?

ITS ACCURACY IS LOW... BUT THIS IS ASTRAL PROJEC-TION...

...A LIVING PERSON... ANOTHER SUPER-HUMAN.

I'VE SEEN THIS POWER BEFORE ...

A-HA.

SO IT *IS* A STALKER AFTER ALL.

WHO *ARE* THESE PEOPLE ...?!

THEY AREN'T SCARED ...!

YOU'RE BUSTED!

TELL US WHERE YOUR PHYSICAL BODY IS!!

...

thud thud thud

fwssh

AW, CRAP.

HE'S VAN-ISHED...

EH?

GOMIBA

THE APART-MENT NEXT DOOR ...!

ぞぞぞぞぞ

IT CAN'T BE! ARE YOU *SERIOUS* ...?

IT'S THE GUY NEXT DOOR ?

WHAT ...?

ding dong ding dong ding dong

ding dong

ピンポーン

PUSH

...

ぬ
lean っ

504

PUSH

ガチャ…
Kchakk

...SO YOU'VE GOT POWERS TOO.

mutter ボ

mutter ボソ…

GOD-DAMN YOU...

I CAN'T LIE! EVER SINCE I LAID EYES ON HER...

...IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT !!!

I TELL YOU, I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY ABOUT SOME-ONE... OTHER-WISE, I WOULD NEVER HAVE DONE IT!

YOU'RE HERE TO LECTURE ME, RIGHT? YEAH, I KNOW WHAT I DID WITH MINE WAS WRONG...

...BUT THE LOVE I FEEL? YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW THAT'S RIGHT.

SHE WILL BE MINE! STAY OUT OF MY WAY...

ボソッ mutter

mutter ...

...OR I'LL KILL YOU...!

SAY, DUDE.

DON'T YELL AND MUTTER AT ME. ONE OR THE OTHER, OKAY ...?

YOU BASTARD ...!

swing

...JUST A MISER-ABLE PSYCHIC PEEPING TOM.

whap!

IT'S NO USE SWINGING ON ME, PAL. LIKE I SAID, YOU'RE BUSTED.

YOU'RE NO EVIL SPIRIT...

I'M AGAINST VIOLENCE! HELP...!

I'LL CALL THE COPS !!!

YEAH, GOOD IDEA.

SO!

ARRGH!! OW, OWW, OWWWW ...!

I WON'T DO IT AGAIN! I WON'T USE MY POWER !!

PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

grovel!

bow!

bow!

scrape!

bow!

I'M SORRY ...!

I WAS WRONG! I WAS WRONG !

GHOST, PSY-CHIC, OR JUST A MAN ...

...YOU'RE AN ABSO-LUTE CREEP WHAT-EVER WAY.

BUT... BUT... I DO LOVE YOU...I DO...!

I...I MEAN THAT...

YOU MEAN IT?

IT WAS A WASTE BEING AFRAID OF YOU!

NEVER SHOW YOUR FACE TO ME AGAIN!

AND GO TO HELL!

HELLO?! POLICE...? YES, I CALLED YESTERDAY TOO. IT'S ABOUT THE STALKER, THE PERSON, HE'S...YES... YES.

RIGHT AWAY... YES.

IF ONLY *YOU* HADN'T SHOWN UP...

...

HUH?

WE CAN LEAVE THE REST TO THE COPS.

POLICE

WHY DOES IT...

HM?

HE TRIED TO MAKE A STALKING LOOK LIKE A HAUNTING, HUH.

DON'T *YOU* DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT, SHIGEO.

I'LL HAVE TO ASK HIM WHY.

THERE'S A LOT GOING ON IN HIS MIND TODAY...

WANT SOME SOBA AFTER-WARDS?

WELL, LET'S GET BACK AND STRAIGHTEN UP THE OFFICE...

YES.

ふぁ〜 yawn

I DON'T UNDER-STAND IT...

...MAKE SO MUCH OF A DIFFER-ENCE... WHETHER THE PERPE-TRATOR IS AN EVIL SPIRIT... OR A PERSON ...?

Spir

WE JUST CAME OVER FROM OUR COLLEGE... WE'VE GOT SOME-THING WE WANT TO ASK YOU!

ARE YOU REALLY A SPIRIT MEDIUM ...?!

SALMON

OH! YOU'RE BACK! WE'VE BEEN WAIT-ING FOR YOU!

THAT'S GREAT! WE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE CLOSED TODAY!

THREE CASES IN ONE DAY. I BELIEVE THAT'S A RECORD FOR ME.

HEY, THESE ARE LONG HOURS FOR A PART-TIMER!

MORE CLIENTS ...?

...WE WANT TO CREATE A LASTING MEMORY.

SEE, GRADU-ATION'S COMING UP, AND WE IN OUR CLUB...

WELL... LET'S HEAR THEM OUT ANY-WAY.

BUT WE'RE SCARED SOME-THING MIGHT HAPPEN ...

SO WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA IF WE COULD GET A SPIRIT MEDIUM TO COME ALONG WITH US!

...AND TAKE SOME GROUP PHOTOS THERE!

WHY A HAUNT-ED SPOT ...?

SO WE FIGURED, WE'D GO TO A FAMOUS HAUNTED SPOT WE FOUND IN A MAGA-ZINE...

MY GUESS IS THESE PEOPLE HAVEN'T HAD ANY JOB OFFERS YET.

RIGHT NOW !

WE'VE GOT A CAR OUTSIDE! SO YOU WANNA COME WITH US...?!

WHEN DO YOU WANT TO DO IT...?

SO IT'S JUST FOR FUN... WELL, NO REASON TO TURN THEM DOWN ...

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GO FOR THAT SOBA...

IT MAY TAKE ANOTHER 30!

WE'VE BEEN DRIVING FOR 30.

IS IT REALLY 20 MIN-UTES AWAY?

...WHAT DOES HE PAY YOU?

MOB!

I'M...A PART-TIMER.

A SPIRIT MEDIUM KEEPS A PART-TIMER? HILARI-OUS!

WHAT ARE YOU? LIKE, AN ASSIS-TANT?

OFF

WE'RE HERE!

HUH? YES, SIR.

OOH! THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF LINE YOU EXPECT! AWE-SOME...!!

FOCUS YOUR ENER-GIES IN CASE OF ANY-THING UN-FORE-SEEN.

YIKES! LOOK AT IT! I'VE GOT SHIVERS DOWN MY SPINE!

WHOAAA! THIS PLACE IS SPOOKY AS HELL !!

ALL RIGHT, THEN, PLEASE GET YOUR PHOTOS DONE QUICKLY.

SURE THING !

...NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE THIS SOME KIND OF FAMOUS HAUNTED SPOT.

A LITTLE TRACE, BUT...

DO YOU SENSE ANY SPIR- ITS ...?

SAY CH--

OKAY, EVERY- ONE!

...I REALLY WANT TO VEHEMENTLY REFUSE, BUT THEY'RE CLIENTS, SO WHAT CAN I DO...?

SURE ...

--ACTU- ALLY, CAN YOU TAKE IT, MR. SPIRIT MEDIUM?

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO.

NO, TAKE ONE MORE, PLEASE !

...

NOW ...

CHEESE!

HOORAY!!

NOW, LET'S --

--ACTU- ALLY, CAN YOU USE THE FLASH, MR. SPIRIT MEDIUM ?

...MY DISCIPLE IS A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT.

IT'S WELL INTO THE EVENING. WE HAVE TO GET GOING...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "YOUR FEE"?

FEE ?!

YOU ASKED ME TO DO A JOB...

HM ...?

UH, NOW ABOUT MY FEE...

HUH ?!

SURE THING! THANKS, DUDE!!

BUT NOTHING HAPPENED AT THE HAUNTED PLACE! AND *YOU* DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AT ALL!

WHY WOULD WE HAVE TO PAY YOU FOR THAT?!

HE IS!! IT'S A SCAM! A SCAM !!!

ARE YOU TRY-ING TO SWIN-DLE US?

AND THEN THEY FLEE THE SCENE. UNBELIEVABLE.

DIDN'T EXPECT THAT EITHER.

ヴルルルルルルン

SO THEY DON'T PAY...

フォォォォォ rrrooom

bbrrrrrrr

bbrrrrrrr

...I GUESS WE BETTER START BACK FOR THE ROAD. HOPE WE CAN GET A TAXI.

WELL...

OH.

IT'S OUR CLIENTS FROM LAST NIGHT.

YES ...?

PLEASE... WE NEED YOUR HELP AGAIN...!!

TH-THAT PHOTO WE TOOK... WHEN WE PRINTED IT OUT...

...WE COULD SEE A *GHOST* IN IT.

COME WITH US TO THAT HAUNTED SPOT AGAIN TONIGHT ...

...AND REMOVE THE GHOST IN THIS PHOTO!

WHAT'S THE TASK?

DID YOU TRY SOME SALT?

PLEASE!!

WE'RE SORRY ABOUT THAT! WE'LL PAY YOU!

I DON'T DO VOLUN-TEER WORK.

AS LONG AS IT'S LURKING AT THAT OLD HOUSE, WE W- WON'T HAVE ANY PEACE!

B-BUT JUST KNOWING IT WAS THERE IS FREAKING US OUT! WE CAN'T LEAVE THAT THING BEHIND!

NO NEED TO GO BACK TO THE SITE.

I COULD REMOVE IT RIGHT HERE IN THE OFFICE.

IN PHOTO-SHOP.

WE'LL TAKE THE MOST EXPENSIVE ONE!

UNDERSTOOD. LET ME EXPLAIN MY PACKAGE DEALS...

AN EXOR-CISM, THEN.

D- DO IT QUICK-LY.

AN-OTHER CALL, AN-OTHER WEEK-END RUIN-ED.

IT'S OKAY TO BE MAD, YOU KNOW!

...

stare

...

THERE ARE THREE OF THEM... BUT NOT THAT EVIL...

I BEG YOU... DON'T ...

GO AHEAD, MOB.

WELL, THE CUS-TOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT. AND THIS TIME, I THINK THEY *WILL* PAY.

wshhh

WE'RE NOT... DOING ANY-THING WRONG ...

...AND I JUST WANT... TO BE WITH MY FAMILY HERE FOR A WHILE LONGER...

...BUT WE HAVE PEACE NOW IN THIS HOME.

WE THREE... ARE A FAMILY...

...OUR LIVES WERE NEVER THAT EASY...AND THEN WE DIED IN AN ACCIDENT...

...

...BUT PLEASE, FOR NOW... JUST LET US BE.

...IN TIME... WE'LL GO ON TO OUR FINAL REST...

WE DON'T *NEED* TO EXOR-CISE THEM ...!

THEY SAY THEY'RE NOT DOING ANY WRONG ...

...AND THEY'RE A FAMILY ...

...D-DID YOU HEAR ALL THAT, MASTER?

NO, I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING ...THE SPIRIT ENERGY IS TOO FEEBLE.

shake ビーグ

THEY ARE GHOSTS, RIGHT? WE'RE ALIVE!

WE'RE GONNA PAY YOU, RIGHT? SO DO THE WORK !!

Y-YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND HOW CREEP-ED OUT WE ALL ARE!

HOLD ON! YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THIS!

I'M G- GETTING SICK! GET RID OF THOSE THINGS!

GAH! JUST BEING HERE AGAIN M-MAKES MY SKIN CRAWL!

HURRY UP! DO THE RITUALS OR WHAT-EVER AND EXORCISE THEM!!

DE-STROY-ING THEM IS SOME-THING I DON'T WANT...

...TO DO.

MOB...ARE YOU THAT BOTH-ERED? YOU'VE EXORCISED TONS OF SPIRITS BEFORE NOW.

THESE... PEOPLE... JUST WANT TO LIVE IN PEACE...

I BEG OF YOU... PLEASE LET US BE...

DAR-LING...

DADDY...

THE CUS-TOMER MADE AN UNDER-STAND-ABLE RE-QUEST...

MR. SPIRIT MEDIUM, COME ON! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP US! WE'RE AFRAID...

HEY, KID... ISN'T IT YOUR JOB ...?

YOUR FEEL-INGS DON'T COME INTO IT.

...IF THE DIGNITY OF A SPIRIT IS EQUAL TO THAT OF A LIVING PERSON...

BUT...

...THEN WE'D JUST BE HOME INVADERS... ROBBING FOLK POORER THAN THE POOREST LIVING BEING.

...IF THIS TRULY IS A DEAD FAMILY TRYING TO HOLD ON TO A BARE REMNANT OF THEIR EXIS-TENCE...

...can I place spirits in higher regard than my clients?

So what do I do? As a profes-sional ...

YET MY CLIENTS' FEAR...IS REAL TOO.

I CAN'T ASK MOB TO BE A VILLAIN LIKE THAT.

I HAVE A GOOD IDEA...

...TO RESOLVE THIS SITUATION ...

HEY, PAL.

YOU MAY NOT BE *DOING* WRONG WITH IT...BUT I SENSE YOU'VE GOT SOME SPIRIT POWER.

SEE, IF THE CLIENTS ARE GONE, THEN THERE'S NO LONGER AN EXORCISM JOB...AND YOU CAN GO BACK TO DWELLING HERE IN PEACE.

POSSESS THOSE GUYS WHO WANT TO DESTROY YOU. HAVE THEM KILL EACH OTHER. YOU *COULD* DO THAT, RIGHT...?

...AND KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE.

Dimple...?

...IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT.

THE WAY I LOOK AT IT...

SHIVER SHIVER

SHIVER SHIVER

I SEE...

...SO THEN WHAT *WILL* YOU DO...?

fwoooo

NO. I COULDN'T DO THAT.

NOT IN FRONT OF A CHILD...

...WHEREVER WE END UP.

BUT AT THE VERY LEAST...I HOPE I CAN STILL BE WITH MY FAMILY...

...WE HAVE NO-WHERE ELSE IN THIS WORLD TO FLEE TO.

IF THERE'S NO OTHER WAY...

...THEN I HAVE TO ACCEPT THIS...

MOB, ARE THE GHOSTS STILL SAYING SOME-THING ?

WHY ARE YOU TREM-BLING ?

ARE YOU ...

...

GIVE US A MOMENT, PLEASE.

UMM...LIKE, WHAT'S GOING ON?

YOU'RE STRONG, SHIGEO.

JUST RELAX, OKAY? YOU CAN HANDLE THIS.

I'M NOT GOING TO ORDER YOU.

HE DOESN'T WANT TO EXORCISE THEM SO BAD, HE'S SHAKING.

MOB, WHAT IS IT ...?

YOU DON'T KNOW ...

IT'S OKAY, MOB. TRUST YOUR EMO-TIONS ON THIS.

FOR-GET IT.

OKAY, THEN.

THIS IS SOMETHING NO ONE BUT ME CAN UNDERSTAND.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...

...!

...THEN THE CLIENTS COULD END UP GETTING HURT...

...BECAUSE... IF I DECIDED I WANTED TO PROTECT THIS FAMILY...

I CAN'T TRUST MY EMOTIONS... ...I CAN'T RELAX...

MAKE HIM DO WHAT HE'S TOLD! ANY GHOSTS HERE, EXORCISE THEM RIGHT NOW--

HE'S JUST YOUR PART-TIMER, RIGHT? AREN'T YOU HIS BOSS?

HEY! HEY! WHAT'S THE HOLD UP?!

KII

SHWAK!

SALT SPLASH!!!

AGGH!

WHAT THE...?!

I SAID... IT'S OVER.

THE EXOR-CISM IS OVER.

HUH?

HANG ON A SECOND! SERI-OUSLY? THAT WAS IT...?

IS THIS... HEY! YOU THREW SALT ON US...!

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU DO THAT FOR...?!

TSK ...!

オ shudder ス...

O-OKAY ...

NOW YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD TOO.

...REIGEN ...?

Why didn't I notice it before...?

Is that what it is...?

He can see a world that is far greater.

He can do things that are beyond other people.

SHIT ... I WAS CARE-LESS TO TAKE THIS JOB.

THIS WHOLE THING IS A MESS.

"Curses"... "spirits"... they're an everyday thing in Mob's life.

Humans and things other than humans... they exist the same distance away for him.

LET'S LEAVE.

HOW ABOUT THAT SOBA NOW...?

SURE.

ばすっ slap

spiri

...REIGEN, ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THAT?

IT WAS LIKE THIS ... ...IF I DIDN'T TAKE THEIR MONEY, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN SUSPICIOUS.

LOOK, EVEN IF THEY STIFFED YOU THAT FIRST TIME, AREN'T YOU A PROFESSIONAL? YOU GOTTA HAVE *SOME* PRIDE IN THIS BUSINESS!

YOU DIDN'T EVEN MASSAGE THEIR *SHOULDERS!*

I MEAN, BASICALLY, YOU JUST THREW SOME SALT ON THE GROUND AND TOOK THEIR MONEY!

WHY ARE YOU TREMBLING?

...

TRUE. I TRIED TO RILE HIM UP, BUT HE WOULDN'T TURN BAD.

WHAT? WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU...

MOB WAS REALLY UPSET.

I NEEDED TO SHUT IT DOWN. AND THEY WEREN'T EVIL SPIRITS, WERE THEY?

IT REALLY PAINS ME THAT I LIED TO A CLIENT, THOUGH...

LIAR.

...JUST A YAWN.

JUST A YAWN, HUH. YOU TWO ARE HARDLY ALIKE.

THIS IS A HEX THAT SOME-ONE'S PUT ON YOU.

IT'S WEAK, BUT IT'S GOT AN EVIL AURA.

EH?

I CAN SENSE SOME-THING ON YOUR BACK...

HM...?

I DON'T LIKE YOUR ATTI-TUDE, SO NO.

GET IT OFF ME, OKAY ?

THAT SOUNDS FUNNY, BUT NOT IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE ON A STAIR-CASE.

YOU MAY EXPERI-ENCE *WEAK EVIL!* LIKE SLIPPING ON A BANANA PEEL.

WHAT HAP-PENS IF I LEAVE IT?

...THE ONE WHO ASKED FOR A CURSE... REALIZED I BLUFFED HIM, AND HAD SOME OTHER MEDIUM PUT THIS ON ME.

IT COULD BE THAT CLIENT ...

OKAY PLEASE. ? THIS IS SOME-THING I CAN'T ASK MOB TO DO.

...THAT EVEN WE CAN'T SEE.

fwip ピッ

HE MAY KNOW ABOUT *THINGS THAT ARE REALLY SCARY...*

A LETTER...?

YEP.

A JOB OFFER. AND *THIS* GUY'S RICH.

ARE YOU GONNA GO?

OF COURSE. THIS JOB COULD BE A BIG DEAL.

...WERE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT NORMAL PEOPLE DO...AND EVEN MOB UNDER-STOOD HIMSELF WELL ENOUGH TO GRASP IT.

THAT WHICH HE FEARS...

...AND AVOIDS...

*...IF I EVER THOUGHT... "I WANT TO DESTROY NOT A SPIRIT... BUT THESE **HUMANS**..."*

IF I EVER USED MY POWERS FOR CRIME...

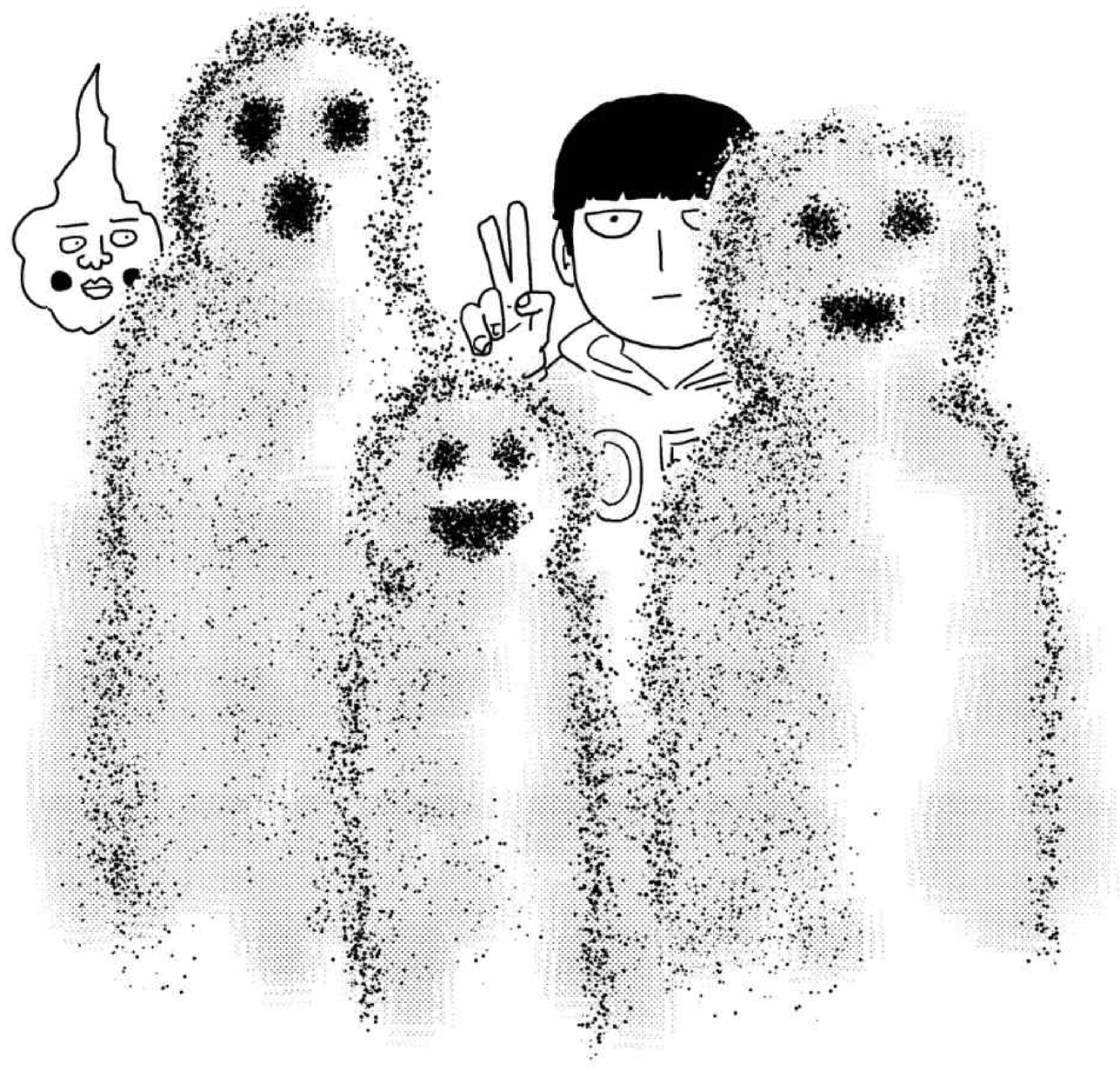
IF I EVER WANTED TO CURSE SOME-ONE...

whumf
ポス…

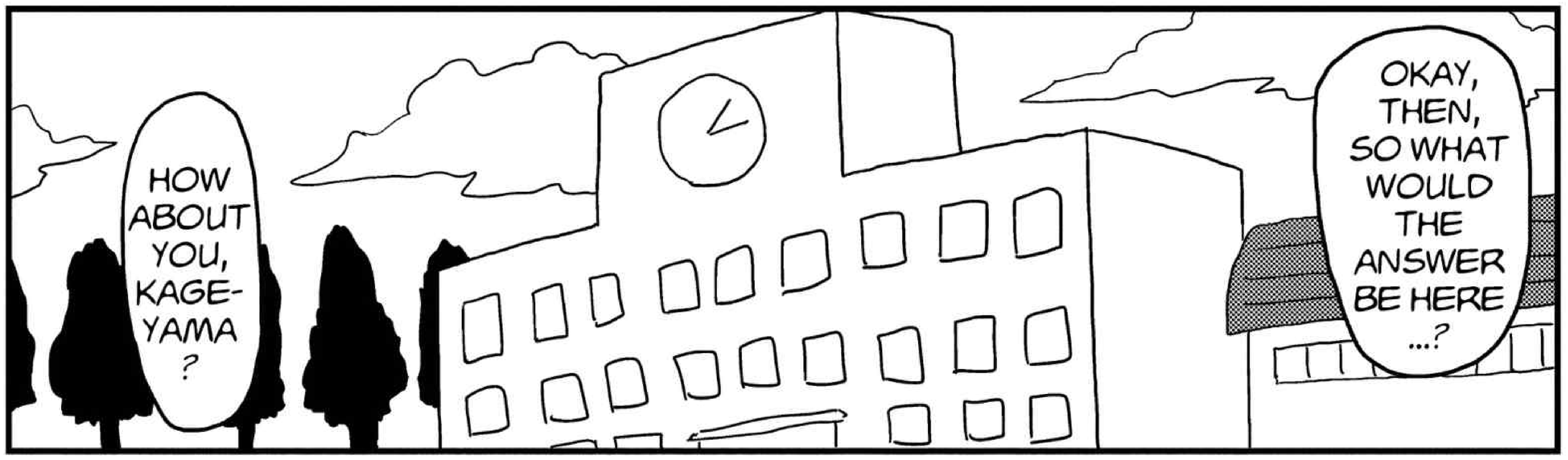
...BUT PERHAPS BECAUSE HE WAS TIRED... HE WENT STRAIGHT TO SLEEP.

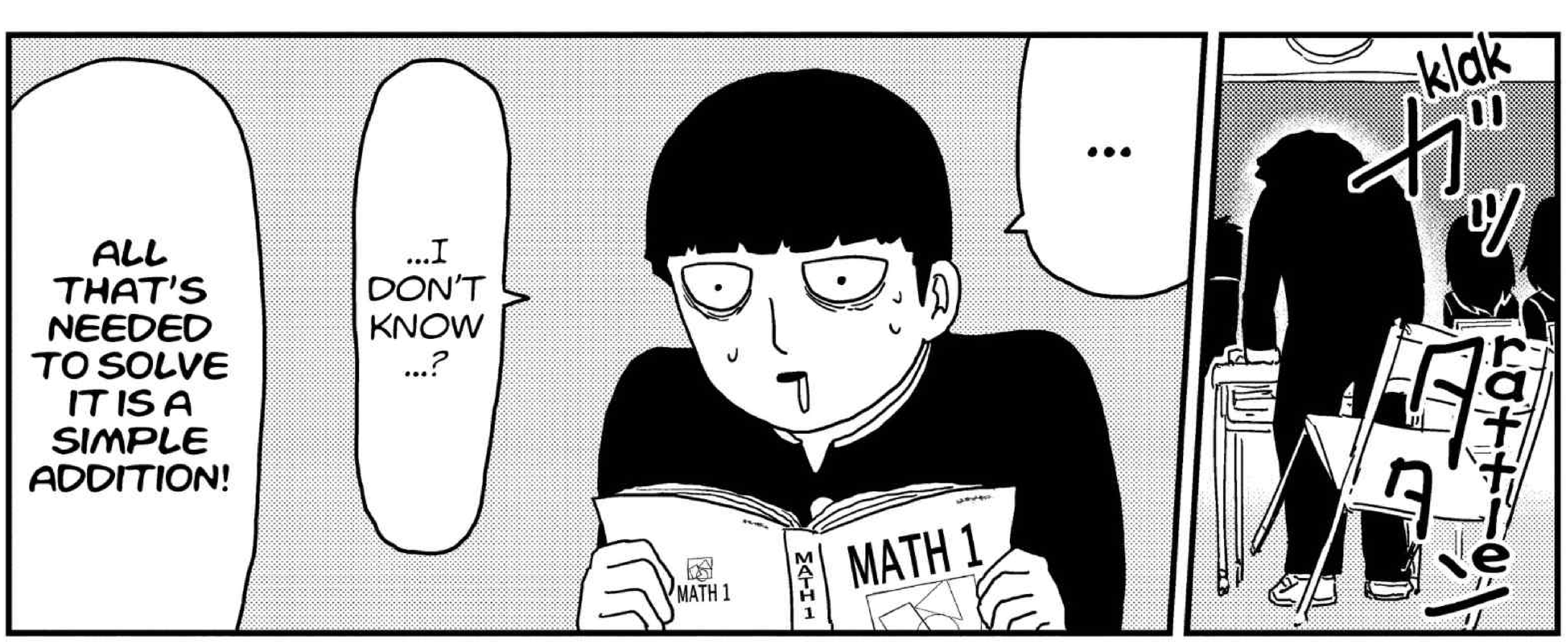
MOB TRIED TO THINK ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED OVER THE WEEKEND...

MOB AT 67%



CHAPTER 59: A BIG DEAL





ワイ yeah!
ワイ yeah!
ワイ yeah!
ワイ yeah!

MOB! IT'S COMING YOUR WAY!!

GOT IT!

ヒュ SKWWWKK

ポーン

トホ トホ トホ トホ

HUP!

ポーン DONK

ズシャアアア

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!!

はha! はha! はha! は

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!

ha! はは ha!

BA HA HA HA HA!

YOU! I'M TALKIN' TO YA!

HEY!

YOU IGNOR-ING ME...?!

HEY, YOU! KID!

'LONG AS WE'RE HERE, THOUGH... COULD YA LEND US SOME MONEY?

QUIT WALKING SO SLOW!

YER IN OUR WAY!

BUT IF YA HAD SOME...

...YOU'D LEND IT TO US, RIGHT?

HIGH SCHOOL-ERS...

I...I DON'T... HAVE ANY.

YA GOT IT ...?

HEH HEH HEH...

NO, THIS AIN'T A "HUH" THING.

TO MAKE SURE, GIVE US YER CELL NUMBER, NAME, AND AD-DRESS.

HUH ?

OKAY, THAT'S GREAT! JUST REMEM-BER TO BRING IT TOMOR-ROW.

SEE? WE AIN'T MAD. DON'T WORRY. JUST LEND US THAT MONEY AND WE'LL LEAVE YA ALONE...

HEH HEH HEH

...AN ANGEL!

WAHOO!!

trot

とて"

trot

とて"

とて"

trot

SUGI-MOTO ?! YA GONE NUTS ...?

I'M... I'M... I'M... I'M...

C'MON, DUDE! GET DRES-SED!

um...

フアスンッ

floppppp

UH HUH HUH HUH HUH ...

ぬぎ" strip

HEY !

ぬぎ" strip

ぬぎ" strip

DUDE, HEY ...!

strip ぬぎ

...STOP IT!

DIMPLE ...

ホ phewww"

トン" whump

UH ?

スウ... snwff

UM... HI...

...

...LET'S START THIS OVER.

SUGI-MOTO, WHAT'S UP? YOU OKAY, DUDE ...?

I... DUNNO... WHAT HAP-PENED ?

IT WAS A JOKE, MORON! DO I HAVE TA SPELL IT OUT ...?

I WANT SOME *MONEY*, SEE? OR YA CAN EAT THIS FIST RIGHT--

HEY, *KID*. YA SAW THAT? GOT A GOOD LAUGH OUTTA IT?

I-I... DIDN'T LAUGH...

YA KNOW THAT WAS *PAY-PER-VIEW*.

ﾅﾆｯ tug

C-CAN'T... BREATHE ...!

UM.

DUDE.

--NOW ...

...

I'M FINE...

...SO... PLEASE LOOSEN IT...

キュッ

I... C-C- CAN'T...!

SUGI-MOTO, YER JUST FREAKIN' OUT, DUDE, RELAX!

TRY TAKIN' OFF YA TIE!!

AWKK...!

UHK...!

...RITSU.

GAAAHHH!!

HAAHH...!

HAAHH...!

HEY, I DON'T WANNA BE RUDE OR NOTHIN', BUT YER BEIN' KINDA WEIRD TODAY.

ピッ fick

fSSHHH

ARE YOU SURE?

THIS GUY SEEMS LIKE A BAD APPLE.

ハアッ hahh!

ハアッ hahh!

スゥー…

…haahhhhhhh!

WE'LL BACK OFF, BUT NOW *YOU* NEED TO RESOLVE THIS, SHIGEO.

AS WE PREDICTED, A SPEAR-HEAD OF STRESS... POINTED RIGHT AT YOUR BIG BROTHER.

OKAY, YOU PUNK ...

...AS I WAS SAY-ING...

um...

THE GENTLE-MAN YOU ARE ADDRESS-ING IS A MEMBER OF OUR CLUB.

EH?

キュ squeeze

BRING IT ON! IF IT'S A FIGHT YA WANT...

...UM... HEY...IT'S GETTIN' HARD TO BREATHE AGAIN...

squeeze
ギュ
ギュウ
squeeze

ズイ bunch
ズイ bunch
BAS-TARDS !

THINK YER TOUGH, HUH ...?!

ズイ
ギュウ bunch
crowd crowd
ギュウ

ズ"
イ loom

HEY! WHAT YA GUYS WANT ?!

QUIT CROWD-IN' ME! HEY!

ズイ loom
ズイ loom
loom

SUGI-MOTO! HANG IN THERE !

HM...?

crunch!
ギュ
ウ

squish!
ギュ
ウ

ギュ mash!
ウ

...YOU DON'T NEED TO START A FIGHT.

UMM, I'M OKAY, SO...

ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?

YES...

W-WE'LL BE BACK, YA HEAR ...?!

WELL, HMM, FOR EXAM-PLE... ...YOU COULD USE STRONG LAN-GUAGE...

KAGEYAMA, WITH TYPES LIKE THAT YOU NEED TO PUSH BACK A LITTLE, OR ELSE THEY WON'T LEAVE YOU BE.

PUSH BACK? HOW ...?

YOU'VE GOT THAT RUMORED SECRET GANG LEADER POWER! USE THAT TO MURDER-IZE THEM!

LAME!

JUST CALL ON ME NEXT TIME YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE. I'LL SEND THEM PACKING.

NO, NO, YOU DON'T NEED TO USE YOUR POWER ON BULLIES LIKE THEM, BIG BROTHER.

NEXT TIME, YOU PUT THE STOMP ON THEM *YOUR-SELF!*

WHEN YOU GET OLDER, YOU'LL LEARN.

PUNISHING BAD PEOPLE LIKE THAT IS FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT AND SOCIETY'S, DON'T YOU KNOW...?

YOU'VE GOT THE GOODS... *USE 'EM!*

Next Day

THIS UPCOMING JOB IS A BIG ONE...IF ALL GOES WELL, WE COULD BE LOOKING AT *STEAK-* FLAVORED RAMEN IN THE FUTURE.

WHAT IS THE JOB ...?

THAT I DON'T KNOW YET. WE'LL HAVE TO GO AND FIND OUT.

I'VE BEEN INVITED TO A FAT CAT'S MANSION!

WELL, WHAT HE DOESN'T KNOW IS TO OUR PROFIT.

BUT WE TOOK THE TRAIN.

HE EVEN SAID HE'D COMP US OUR TAXI FARE.

SO HE'S A CEO OF A COM-PANY ...?

YEP.

OH!

LET'S SEE YOUR INVITA-TION, PLEASE.

STOP RIGHT THERE.

ARE YOU GUESTS OF MR. ASA-GIRI?

...QUITE A *PLACE* HE'S GOT...!

WHOA...

ざわ…
chatter

LOTS OF PEOPLE HERE.

ざわ…
chatter

LOOK AT THEM. FRAUDS, FAKES, CON MEN, AND CHAR-LATANS ...!

...IN OTHER WORDS, THE COMPE-TITION.

THAT'S MY GUESS. BUT HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH A BUNCH OF SHADY CHARAC-TERS?

IS THIS GOING TO BE AN EXOR-CISM ...?

OH...!

ざわ... murmur

ざわ... murmur

HEY, YOU TWO !

HEH! I'VE BEEN GET-TING A BIT MORE WORK SINCE WE LAST MET...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ?

I COULD ASK YOU THE SAME THING ...!

ダダダダ!

IT'S BAN-SHO-MARU SHIN-RA...

チン

NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN ...

SHINRA ...WHO IS THIS MAN?

Step

AND THIS IS...?

...HE'S A FREE-LANCE SPIRIT MEDIUM NAMED ARA-TAKA REI-GEN.

OH, I FOUGHT AGAINST AN EVIL SPIRIT WITH HIM ONCE BE-FORE ...

THIS IS THE PRESI-DENT OF THE SUN PSYCHIC UNION, OF WHICH I AM A PROUD MEM-BER...

...MISTER KIRIN JODO.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

...

...AC-CORDING TO THE RUMORS YOU'VE BEEN SPREAD-ING.

AHH...THE ONE THAT ELIMINATED THE SLIT-MOUTHED WOMAN...

HE RUBS ME THE WRONG WAY...

SURE, HE'S AN ELDER STATES-MAN, BUT HOW LONG'S HE GOING TO BE KING OF THE HILL...?

THEY SAY IF YOU OPPOSE HIM, HE FORCES YOU INTO SHUT-TING DOWN ...

DON'T LOOK HIM IN THE EYE!

I'VE SEEN HIM ON TV...!

THAT'S JODO ...!

...ARE THOSE THREE HIS DISCI-PLES?

CREEPY OLD DUDE...

DAMN RIGHT! THEY'RE SCARED TO EVEN LOOK AT MR. JODO...

C

SMALL FRY, MOST OF THEM... WOULDN'T EVEN BRING MUCH TO THE PARTY.

LACKEY B

CAN'T BELIEVE THERE ARE STILL THIS MANY STRAY DOGS OUT THERE THAT AREN'T MEMBERS OF THE UNION...!

JODO'S LACKEY A

...

REIGEN AND KAGEYAMA ...!

...!

Matsuo Former Claw 7th Division (UPPER ECHELON)

Now has rent to pay.

...

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO LEAVE EVIL BEHIND AND MAKE AN HONEST LIVING, BUT ARE THEY GOING TO HARASS ME...?!

WHAT THE... OH, COME ON...!

カ klopp !!

カ klopp !!

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TO MY HOME.

HE'S GOT BODY-GUARDS ...

THE ASA-GIRI HOLD-INGS CEO...!

HEY! THE CLIENT'S HERE...!

I CHECKED OUT ALL YOUR CAREERS, AND DECIDED TO PLACE MY HOPES IN YOU...

...BASED ON YOUR REPUTA-TIONS AS SPIRIT MEDIUMS OF GENUINE POWER.

...WHO ASKED YOU HERE TODAY.

I AM THE ONE...

CLIENT
MASASHI ASAGIRI

I STILL DO NOT KNOW IF THERE IS ONE AMONG YOU WHO CAN SAVE MY DAUGHTER.

YET EVEN HAVING SAID THAT...

ウィーーン...
Weeeeeen

...THAT WHAT I SHOW YOU NOW REMAINS IN CONFI-DENCE.

murmur murmur murmur murmur

I APPEAL TO YOUR HONOR ...

SAME AGE AS YOU, MOB...

MINORI ASAGIRI. SHE'S 14.

THIS IS MY DAUGH-TER.

OHMI-GAWD, DADDY WHO EVEN **LIKES** THIS KINDA CRAP PRESENT ...?!

DADDY! TELL THEM TO DO SOME-THING FUNNY!

BUT DADDY, I WANTED A **CHEESE CAKE** ...!

THIS FOOT-AGE IS FROM HER BIRTH-DAY PARTY SIX MONTHS AGO.

AT THIS POINT SHE WAS STILL NORMAL...

SHE'S A DISRE-SPECT-FUL BRAT.

YOU GUYS SUCK! HA HA HA HA...

?!

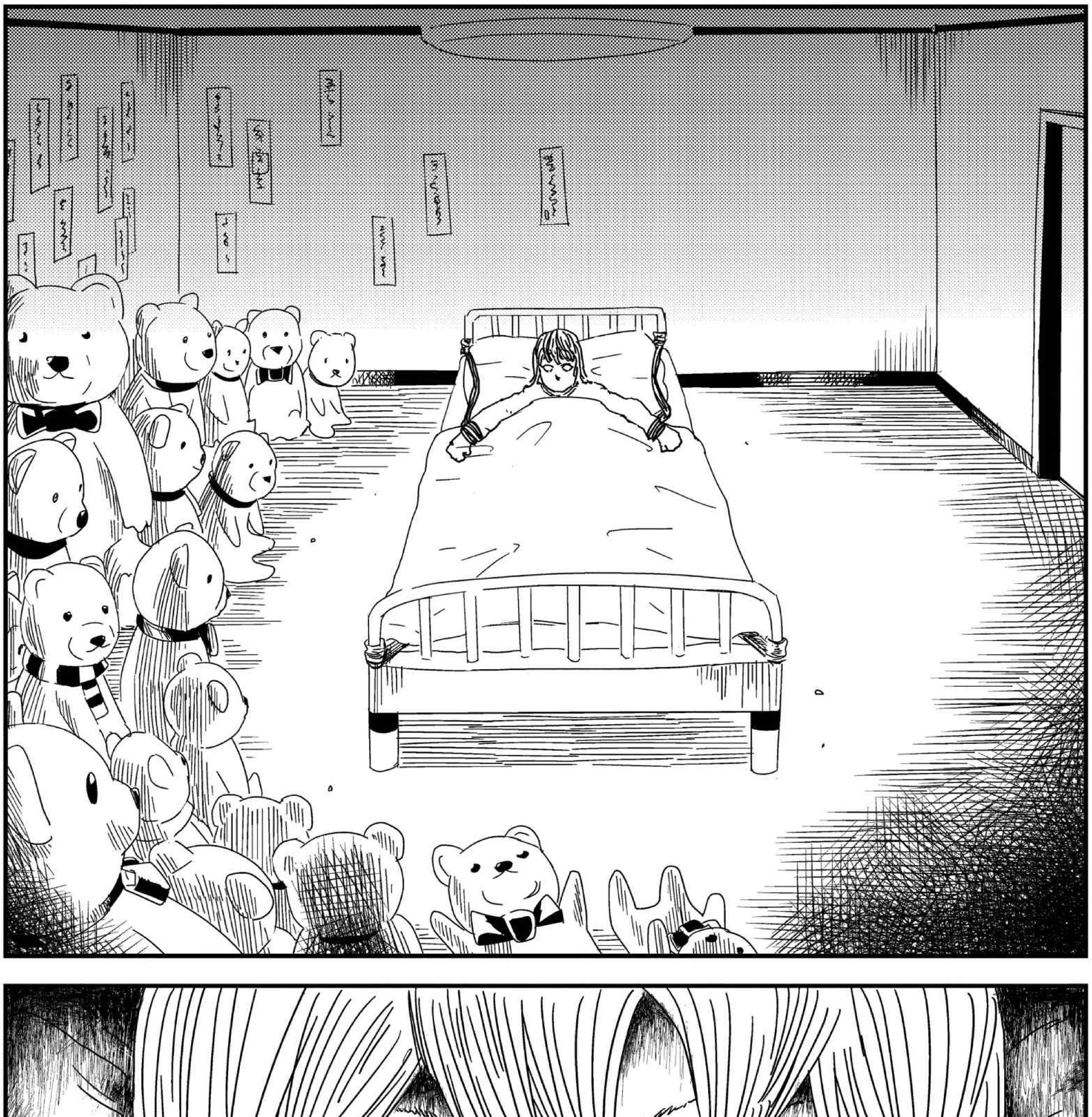
...BUT THIS IS HER...AS SHE IS NOW.

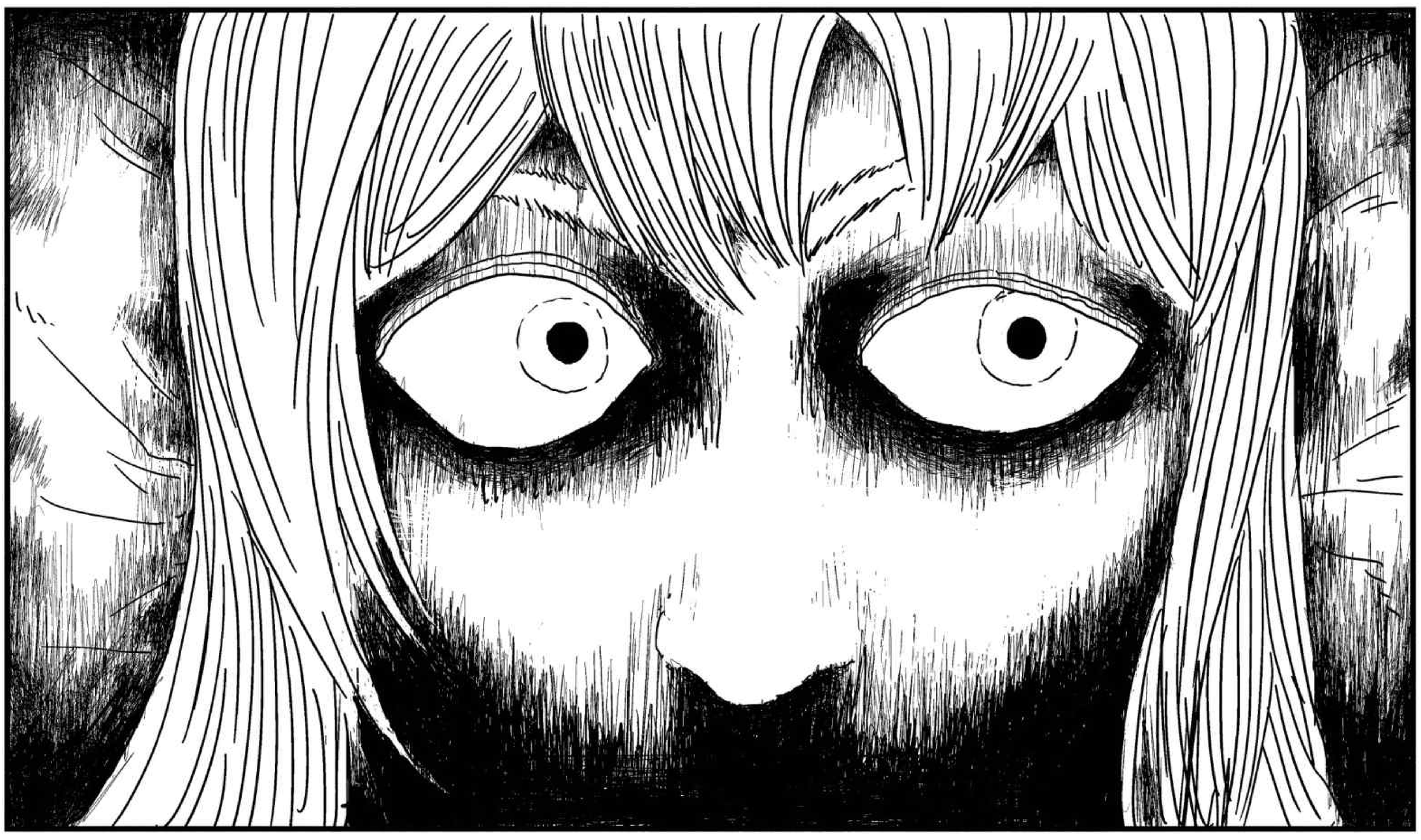
WITH YOUR POWERS, SOME MAY HAVE ALREADY GATHERED THIS...

S-SHE'S TIED DOWN ...?

AND I HAVE BROUGHT YOU ALL HERE TODAY...IN THE HOPES YOU CAN DRIVE IT OUT.

...BUT THERE IS SOME ENTITY WITHIN HER.





CHAPTER 60: WITHIN

THAT IS MY DAUGHTER MINORI.

RIGHT NOW... SHE IS CALM.

I HAD THIS CONSTRUCTED... WE CAN SEE AND HEAR INSIDE THE ROOM... BUT SHE CAN'T SEE OR HEAR US.

ピト…tap

UNRIVALED

...?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...I DON'T SENSE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST THING.

RIGHT NOW...

DIMPLE...

HMM...I CAN VERY FAINTLY FEEL A NEARBY REPUGNANT PRESENCE...

...?

DOES SHE SEE US?

CAN'T BE...

...

...

AT FIRST I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE THIS WAS DUE TO SUPER-NATURAL FORCES ...

...I TRIED BRINGING IN COUN-SELLORS... PSYCHOL-OGISTS... MEDICAL PEOPLE ...

...

THAT BLOOD. IS IT YOUR DAUGH-TER'S ...?

THOSE SUCH AS YOU, WITH POWERS OVER THE SPIRIT... YOU'RE MY LAST HOPE. HELP HER AND I SHALL REWARD YOU.

...AND I TRIED PRAYING SHE WOULD RETURN TO NORMAL ...BUT TO NO AVAIL.

I HAVE PER-FORMED MANY PURIFICA-TIONS, BUT...

IT'S HARD TO BE-LIEVE ...

SHE DID THAT ...?

THE LITTLE GIRL ...?

...OR THEY HAVE STIFF SHOUL-DERS.

OR SOME-ONE GAVE THEM A SO-CALLED PHOTO OF GHOST ...

Saint

OR THEY GOT SCARED OF SOME-THING NORMAL BE-CAUSE IT WAS DARK...

...MOST IN TRUTH *WERE* MEDICAL ISSUES... WHETHER PHYSICAL OR PSYCHO-LOGICAL.

IT SEEMS THEY GET JOBS LIKE MASTER REIGEN'S, TOO...

YES! STIFF SHOUL-DERS! EXACT-LY!

WELL, ALL *RIGHT*, THEN! LET'S GET THIS DONE AND DUSTED, SHALL WE?

DAILY EXORCISE

WHAT DO YOU SAY, EH, MOB ...?!

PRAISE BUDDHA

BUT IF SHE IS *TRULY* POS-SESSED BY A SPIRIT NOT OF THIS WORLD...

...THEN I DOUBT THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO.

BUT YOU HARDLY GET PAID ANY-THING TO BEGIN WITH.

A BONUS ...MY FIRST EVER...

HE SAID THERE'S A REWARD FOR SUCCESS. WE'RE TALKING A *BONUS* FOR YOU...!

HANG ON JUST ONE SECOND ...!!

...VERY WELL. GIVE IT YOUR BEST, SHINRA.

LEAVE THIS TO ME PLEASE, MR. JODO!!!

HOW DARE YOU! NO ONE SPEAKS TO MR. JODO THAT WAY...!!

EH...?

HEY, WHAT DO YOU MEAN "VERY WELL"...? I SAID *WE* WERE GONNA DO IT!

THE MATTER CAN EASILY BE DECIDED WITH ROCK-PAPER-SCIS-SORS.

...?!

I BEG YOU ALL NOT TO FIGHT ...

...THERE IS NO NEED TO ARGUE...

ALL RIGHT! I CHOOSE *PAPER!*

WELL, I *GUESS* THAT WOULD BE FAIR...

UM... YEAH.

FOR-GET ABOUT HIM. THAT'S JUST WHAT HE'S LIKE.

ARE YOU DUMB, OR IS THIS SOME KIND OF PSYCH-OUT...?

IT COULD BE BOTH, YOU KNOW...AN ATTEMPT AT A PSYCH-OUT BY A DUMB PERSON.

UH... ...I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SUP-POSED TO SAY IT...

WHAT, SAY PAPER? DID YOU HEAR ME SAY PAPER? NO! I SAID *SCIS-SORS!*

DID HE SAY PAPER?! OR SCIS-SORS ...?!

I LOST!

I WON!

ONE, TWO, THREE...!

ONE, TWO ...

THREE!!

WAIT! I CHANGED MY MIND! I'M GOING WITH PAPER!!

OKAY. SO, ONE, TWO ...

LOOK, JUST SHUT UP, DUDE.

TWO...

...THREE!

ONE ...

DANG! I LOST...

I WON!

I, REIGEN, AM THE GREATEST. YES, OUT OF THE ENTIRE WORLD OF SPIRIT MEDIUMS... THERE IS *NO ONE* WHO CAN BEAT ME AT ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS.

TO THE LESSER PRACTITIONER, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE! BUT TO *MY* INSIGHT, THEIR WRIST AND ARM ANGLES WERE AS THE REVELATIONS OF SACRED GEOMETRY!

REIGEN WON IN THE END!

WOW ...

...MASTER ...HOW DID YOU DO IT?

HOW EMBARRASSING. I SHOULDN'T HAVE ADMITTED TO KNOWING HIM.

...S-SO HE MANAGED TO PSYCH US ALL OUT...

...AND YET HE'S STILL DUMB !!!

HEH, HEH.

SEE YA.

IT PROBABLY WON'T COME AROUND TO YOU.

SHIGEO, YOU CAME IN 49TH OUT OF 68.

P-PLEASE... SOMEHOW...

...SAVE HER.

YEAH. SO, HERE I GO ...

ガチャッ chakk

UH, UMM ...!!

smile ニコッ

ニコッ smile

...IS MINORI REALLY POS-SESSED AFTER ALL...?

HM...SHE DOES SEEM LIKE AN ORDINARY GIRL...

HI!

...LET'S JUST SEE HOW IT GOES.

AND I CAN'T TELL HER I'M A SPIRIT MEDIUM... BECAUSE IF IT TRULY **IS** POS-SESSION, I CAN'T HELP HER EITHER...!

THIS IS CLEARLY SERI-OUS... AND IF IT **DOES** TURN OUT TO BE A MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE, I'M NO EXPERT.

...NO.

...SO, YEAH, YOUR SHOULDERS ARE *DEFINITELY* STIFF. YOUR ARMS, TOO.

DO YOU, UH, GET MUCH EXERCISE?

I MEAN, I AM LOCKED UP IN HERE.

LISTEN ...

...MY FATHER'S BEEN ACTING RATHER STRANGE LATELY.

NO, NOT AT ALL.

MINORI, DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE LOCKED UP IN HERE ...?

HIS FACE GETS SO FRIGHTENING...

...AND THEN HE *HITS* ME!

I MEAN, LOCKING ME IN THIS ROOM AND TYING ME DOWN ... DON'T *YOU* THINK THAT'S STRANGE ...?

HE HAS ?

...AND ONE OF THE MEN... HE WAS ODD...

...BUT THEY ALL LEAVE LOOK-ING SO UN-HAPPY.

HE'S BROUGHT LOTS OF GROWN-UPS INTO THIS ROOM TO TALK TO ME...

I SWEAR ...I DIDN'T ...

I... BUT...I D-DIDN'T HIT HER... THAT HARD...

...HOW HE TOUCHED ME...ALL OVER MY BODY...

B-BEFORE I CALLED YOU ALL HERE AS A GROUP... I...I DID ASK A SINGLE EXORCIST TO VISIT LAST WEEK...

WHO WAS THIS GUY SHE MEANT ...?

FOR REAL ?

NOTH-ING LIKE *THAT* HAP-PENED ...

WHAT... WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT ...?

YOU SUS-PECT ME OF WRONG-DOING ...?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT ?

IS THAT SO?

I HAD TO CALL 911...

HE TOUCHED HER HEAD ...HE SCREAM-ED... AND HE FAINT-ED.

WELL? WHAT HAP-PENED ?

LIKE WHAT?

IT'S THE DEVIL! MAKING MY DAUGHTER TELL LIES!!

N-NO! I'M THE ONE WHO'S NORMAL...! SHE'S POSSESSED!

AGAIN, HE'S BEEN ACTING RATHER STRANGE LATELY, ALMOST AS IF HE'S... POSSESSED.

HE SAYS... THINGS ...

YOU MUSTN'T BELIEVE ANYTHING MY FATHER TELLS YOU.

...AND WITH HIS POWER... AND MONEY... HE CAN GET OTHERS TO BUY INTO HIS MADNESS.

...SO THAT'S REALLY WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ...?

HUH ...

I'M A "REBELLIOUS TEENAGER"... AND IT'S DRIVEN FATHER LITERALLY INSANE...

IT'S SAD FOR ME TOO... HE KEEPS TELLING ME I'M CURSED ...THAT THERE'S SOME SPIRIT WITHIN ME...

THAT THE DEVIL HAS TAKEN ME OVER.

I'LL GO ASK YOUR... FATHER, MINORI.

THESE HURT...

MY WRISTS ARE BRUISED...

YOU SAID I WAS STIFF... IT WOULD HELP SO MUCH JUST TO MOVE AROUND...

CAN ...

CAN *YOU* HELP ME ...?

YOU MUST SENSE I'M NOT POSSESSED...

... LORD ...I JUST WANT TO GO BACK TO *CLASS* ...!

...HURLED HIM INTO THE CEILING...AND ALL WITH *JUST ONE HAND*?! HE RECEIVED FAR MORE THAN A *BRUISE* FROM *THAT*...!

TAKE OFF HER ROPES...?! DID YOU NOT SEE THE FILM?! MINORI *LIFTED* THAT DOCTOR UP IN THE AIR...*CHOKED* HIM...

...L-*LOOK*...! TODAY SHE J-JUST...

WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT SHE'S WELL BEHAVED RIGHT NOW, AND IT'S TRUE THAT THOSE RESTRAINTS MUST BRUISE HER...

YES I SAW IT. AND I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU SOME-THING.

I'M NOT SENSING ANY SPIRIT ENERGY AT *ALL* WITHIN THAT ROOM...

I'M WON-DERING NOW... IF SHE REALLY *IS* POS-SESS-ED.

BIT WEIRD TO HIRE MEDIUMS FOR A PROBLEM WITH HER *MOODS*, ISN'T IT?

...JUST HAPPENS TO BE... IN A GOOD MOOD...

AT LEAST AS FAR AS THE SUPER-NATURAL IS CONCERNED ...THAT GIRL IS *FINE*!

NO FUR-THER INVESTI-GATION IS RE-QUIRED!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, REI-GEN...?

HMM...

THERE'S *CLEARLY* BEEN SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT MINORI FOR SOME TIME! I THOUGHT YOU WERE PSYCHICS! IF YOU CAN'T SEE IT, CAN'T YOU AT LEAST *SENSE* IT...?

ARE YOU *ALL* BLIND ...?!

WHAT-EVER THE PROB-LEM IS HERE...

...IT'S NOT...

SO YOU THINK SO TOO, MISTER JODO ...?

IF HE SAYS IT, I AGREE ...

IF IN HIS JUDG-MENT, THIS ISN'T A CASE FOR US... THEN I ASSURE YOU IT *ISN'T.*

WE'RE PROFES-SIONALS... AND MR. JODO HERE, HE'S THE PRESI-DENT OF OUR UNION.

THAT'S JUST IT, SIR...WE *DON'T.*

NO... HE'S WRONG ...SOME-HOW...

YOU'RE *ALL* WRONG.

THAT'S MUZO UTO...HE'S JUST BEHIND MR. JODO IN THE SUN PSYCHIC UNION!

MAYBE HE'S GUNNING FOR THE NUMBER ONE SPOT, HUH? BUT IF THERE'S NO SPIRIT HERE, HE CAN'T SHOW MR. JODO UP...

MAYBE SHE'S CALM NOW, BUT...

N-NO... THAT CAN'T BE TRUE...

...IF IT WOULD CONVINCE YOU, I SHALL OFFER A SECOND OPINION.

MR. ASAGIRI... I WAS NEXT IN LINE AFTER THIS, ER, REIGEN. AND WHILE I BELIEVE IT IS AS MR. JODO SAYS...

...AND IT CAN LEAD TO CHILDREN GETTING HURT FOR *REAL* BY THEIR FAMILY'S ***DELUSIONS.***

THEY GO LOOKING FOR SOMETHING OUTSIDE TO BLAME ...EVEN A SPIRIT OR DEVIL...

PEOPLE UNABLE TO DEAL WITH CHANGES IN THEIR FAMILY... ...BECAUSE THEY DON'T WANT TO UNDERSTAND THE OTHER PERSON.

UM, MR. ASAGIRI...

...YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW OFTEN THIS HAPPENS.

...SAY, ARE YOU GUYS *USUALLY* SO DISRESPECTFUL TO YOUR CLIENTS ...?

...

I...

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS WHO *ARE* POSSESSED...

...BY THEIR STUBBORN AND SELFISH IDEAS.

EVEN *WITH* THOSE ROPES, SHE WOULD HAVE KICKED MY ASS IF I LET ON I KNEW.

KNEW? KNEW ***WHAT?***

YOU *SPOKE* TO HER! SHE'S FINE NOW...

EH? BUT YOU SAW HER YOURSELF!

YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO ASK HER FATHER TO TAKE OFF THOSE ROPES...

YOUR IN-STINCTS ...?

...B-B-B-B-BAD.

THAT'S WHAT MY INSTINCTS TOLD ME.

THAT SHE'S EVIL NOW... BAD TO THE BONE...

WHATEVER I WAS TALKING TO...IT *WASN'T* HIS CHILD.

...

IF YOU STAY... YOU MAY GET WHAT THAT DOC-TOR GOT.

THOSE OF YOU WHO'VE BEEN TAKEN IN BY THAT CALM DECEP-TION CAN LEAVE.

SO... SO YOU ***DO*** BE-LIEVE ME ...?

...AND DRAG THE THING THAT'S HIDDEN WITHIN HER SQUIRM-ING INTO THE LIGHT!

THE ONLY EXOR-CISM SERVICE *YOU'VE* DONE WAS ON THOSE STIFF SHOUL-DERS!

INDEED! BUT THESE MAS-SEUR'S HANDS ARE ABOUT TO TAKE THE GLOVES OFF...

YOU JUST WANT THE REWARD FOR YOURSELF, DON'T YOU...?

THAT'S TRUE TOO, I BET...

HE FELL OUT OF THE WINDOW ...!

...HM. HMM. WELL, THAT *IS* ONE WAY TO SAY IT. ANOTHER WAY TO SAY IT WOULD BE THAT HE WAS THROWN OUT.

ゴオオオ Whoooosh

WHAT THE ...?!

I DID WATCH THE FILM.

MAS-TER ...!

I'M OKAY. YOU SEE...

"FATHER"...? IN THE FILM IT WAS "DADDY" THIS, "DADDY" THAT...

...IT WAS *"OHMI-GAWD"* ...NOW IT'S ***"LORD"...?*** BUT THE CLINCHER WAS...

WHAT'S SHE BEEN DOING IN THERE, STUDYING ETI-QUETTE? THAT WAS MY FIRST CLUE...

UTO! HANG ON! WE'LL STOP HER...

N-NO...

RUN... FOR IT...

...BUT SHE KNEW WE WERE ALL HERE.

HER DAD TOLD US THAT WINDOW IS ONE-WAY AND SOUND-PROOF...

...WHEN SHE SAID **I** MUST SENSE SHE WASN'T POS-SESSED.

HOW WOULD I SENSE THAT? I NEVER TOLD HER MY LINE OF WORK.

YES, YES, YES!

...OR SHOULD I SAY... HERE ...?!

I DID KNOW YOU WERE ALL THERE ...

AND NOW THAT YOU'RE ALL HERE? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? WHO WILL CAST ME OUT FROM FATHER'S --

--I BEG YOUR PARDON... FROM DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL...?!

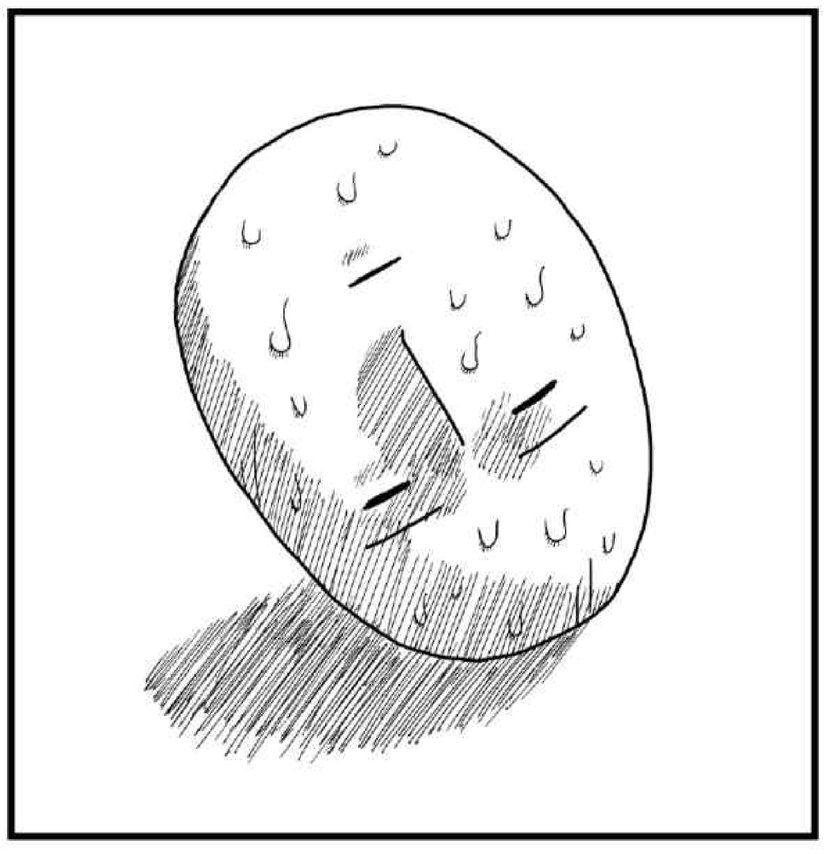
AND THIS TIME...EVEN YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE. YOU BETTER LISTEN TO THAT DUDE ON THE FLOOR...

...AND RUN FOR IT.

SHIGEO ...

...I KNOW WHO THAT IS TALKING TO US.

CONTINUED IN VOL. 8
OF *MOB PSYCHO 100*!



ONE

I'd like to go to the beach.

Or even the mountains.

Or even a rice paddy.

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digital art technician
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English-language version produced by Dark Horse Comics

MOB PSYCHO 100

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SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE . . .

You sense it, somehow. You suspect this story doesn't really go the way it should. You're suspicious! But a smooth talker like Reigen would know what to say at this point. *"Just flip the book around and start reading it the other way instead."* Aha! So this was really the last page of the book. You're saved! Thank you, Reigen-sensei! *"Now, about my fee . . . "*

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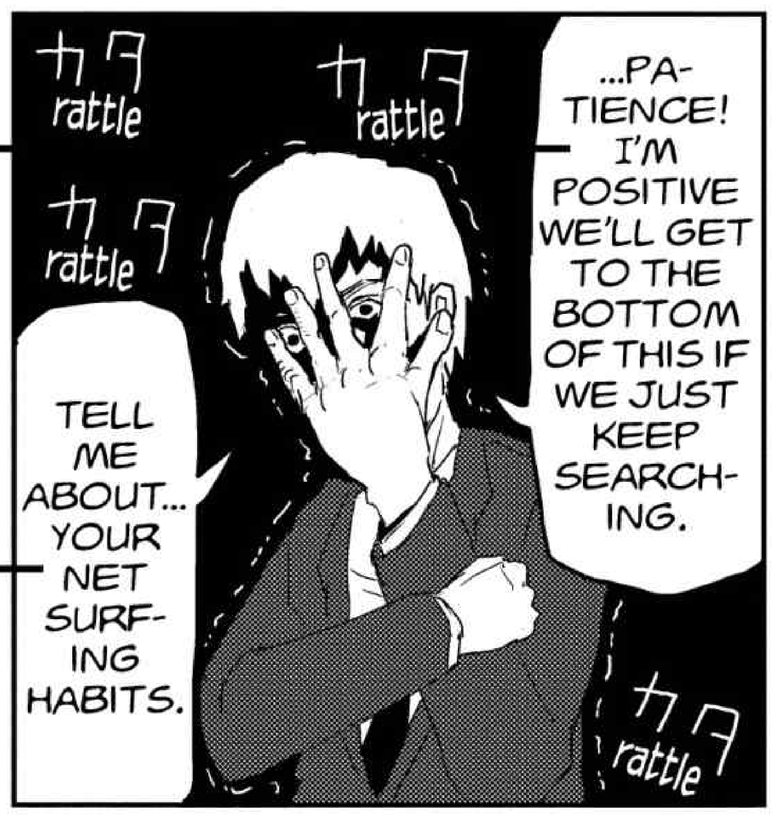

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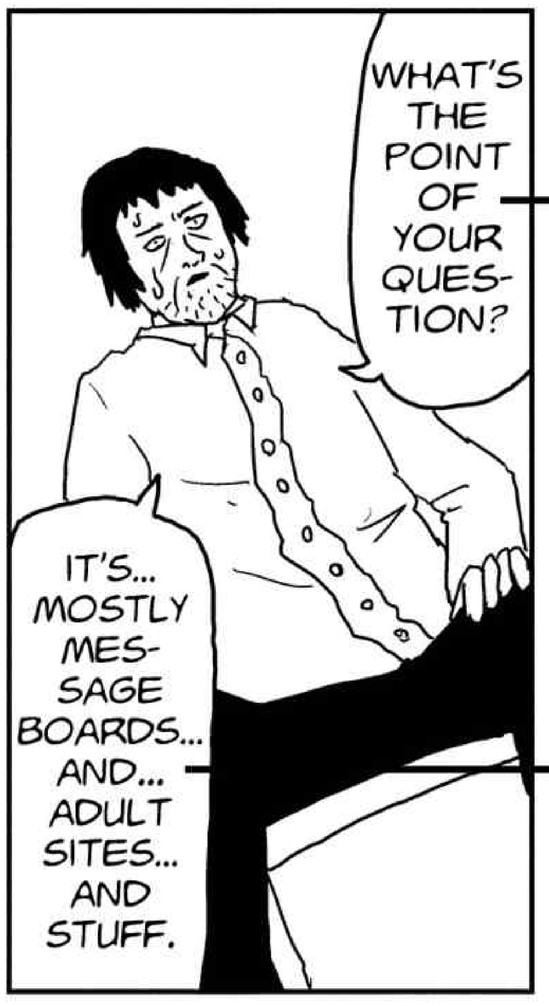

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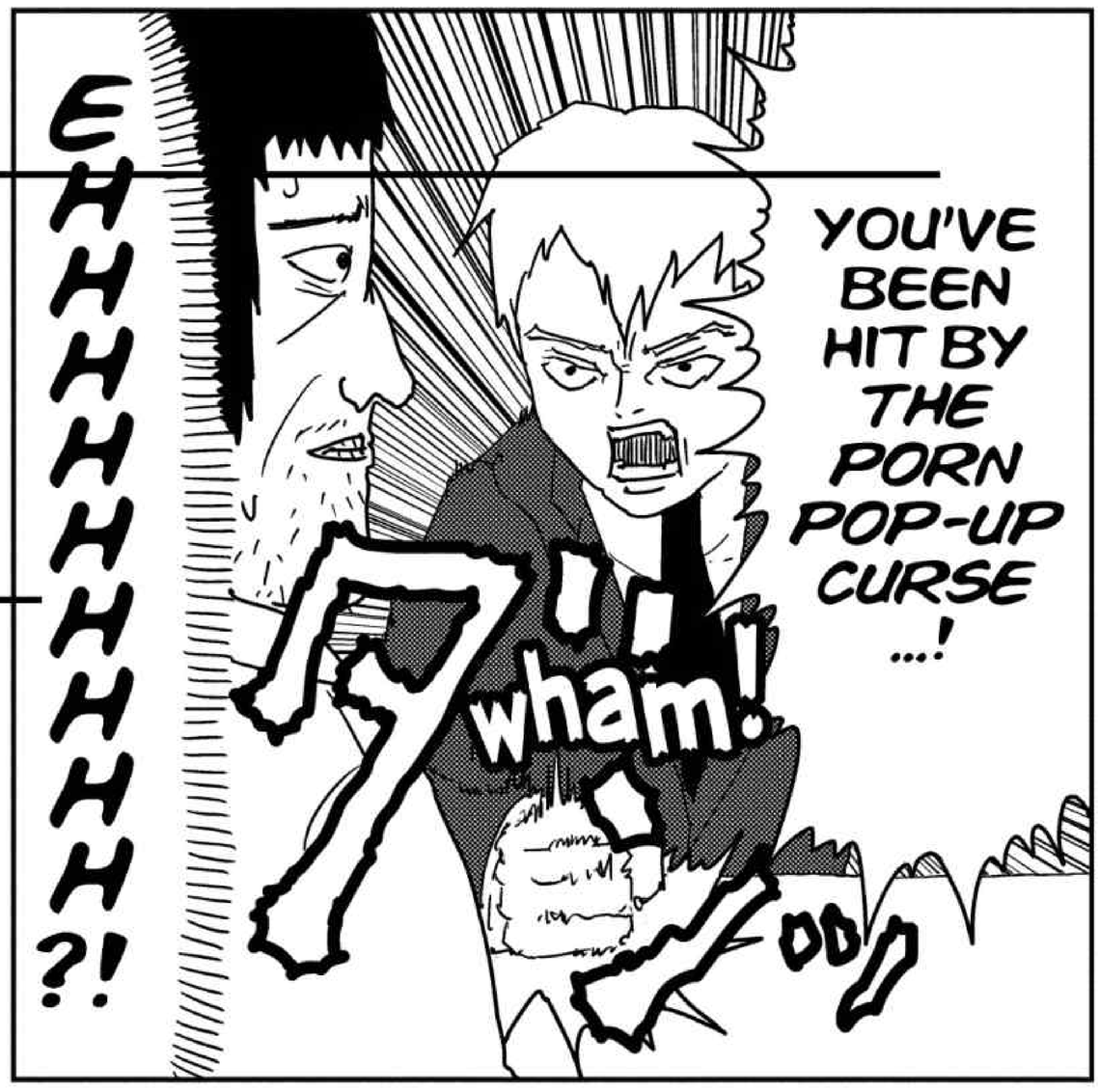

DARK HORSE MANGA®

FROM THE CREATOR OF *ONE-PUNCH MAN*!

The original *Mob Psycho 100* manga that inspired the anime from Crunchyroll and Funimation and the live-action series from Netflix!!!

It's back to business at Spirits & Such... but since it seems all the ghosts are resting in peace recently, business is dead, too! But if jobs won't come to them, they'll just have to go out and meet trouble halfway...which is why Reigen's taking Mob to a town filled with urban legends, and why Reigen and Mob make a trip to meet with clients at an exclusive but haunted girls' school—in disguise, dressed in ponytails and sailor skirts!

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